THE TIMES

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THE TIMES
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Tomorrow

Worrying de Bono
A new book takes a sideways look at celebrities' secrets of success

Perchance to dream
Miles Kington defends dozing in public places of entertainment

Grand old winners
Former Grand National winners give their tips for Aintree this weekend

Portfolio

There were two winners in The Times Portfolio competition yesterday. Mr Alan Titt of Crediton, Devon, and Mrs Heather Harris of Brighton each received £2,000, because Monday's prize was not won. Portfolio list, page 28; how to play, information service, back page.

US may act over killing of major

The United States is considering diplomatic retaliation against the Soviet Union after the killing of a US Army major by a Soviet guard in East Germany, the White House spokesman, Mr Larry Speakes, said yesterday. The Pentagon confirmed that Major Arthur Nicholson Jr was photographing Soviet military equipment.

South Africans charged

Fifty out of 264 arrested churchmen and civil rights activists who attempted to march on Parliament in Cape Town appeared in court and were charged with attending an illegal gathering under the International Security Act

Page 6

Shooting puzzle

Times correspondents have pieced together what is known about the incident in which two CBS men were killed in Lebanon by Israeli tank fire

Page 8

12 pages of jobs

***The Times* publishes today a special appointments section of 12 pages with posts for chief executives, managing directors, and sales and marketing executives. The section includes overseas appointments and is introduced with an artice by Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister for Information Technology**

Pages 37-48

Profits record

BAT Industries, the tobacco and retailing group, became Britain's most profitable non-oil company with earnings of £1.4 billion last year Page 23

TUC deputy

Mr Ken Graham, aged 62 who has worked at the TUC since 1961, has been elected deputy general secretary

Title chance

Barry McGuigan, of Northern Ireland, will meet Eusebio Pedroza for the Panamanian's world featherweight title in London in a deal worth £1.7 million Page 31

THE TIMES SPECIAL REPORT

A six-page Bicentenary Special Report traces 200 years of change in housing and architecture, from Georgian grandeur to suburban semi Pages 17-22

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Letters: On directors' pay, from Mr D Soskin, and others; Thatcher gibe, from Prof J K Hyde, and others
Leading articles: Greece; Election deposits
Books, page 13
Robert Nye reviews poetry; Woodrow Wyatt on Orwell; Tim Heald on thrillers; Nicholas Shakespeare reviews fiction of the week; Angela Gordon on Anna Ford on Men.
Features, pages 12-14
Industry's growing social conscience; The election veto under scrutiny; Hattersley's hidden agenda; The *New Yorker* in profile; Bankruptcy – turning loss into profit
Obituary, page 16
Major-General H L Birks, Mr George London

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Advertising on BBC to be studied by inquiry

By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent

The BBC lost its fight for a £65 colour television licence yesterday and now faces the prospect of advertising on its services within three years.

The new fee will be £58, the Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, said in a Commons statement. The possibility of funding the corporation by advertising will be investigated by a departmental committee reporting in the summer of next year.

The Home Office has fixed the duration of the fee at two years in order to allow any measures recommended by the committee to be introduced during the third.

But if the committee suggests that the licence fee remain as the sole source of revenue, the BBC will have to continue with a £58 settlement during the third year.

The announcement provoked a muted response from the corporation which, at one time, feared a settlement so low that it would have to make extensive programme cutbacks.

It said that it was disappointed by the settlement, which represented a loss of income of £350 million over three years.

But it is thought that the chief casualties of the failure to win a £65 fee will be the planned extensions to the BBC, including a new Broadcasting House, more drama and developments in radio services.

The committee's full terms of reference are:

To assess the effects of the introduction of advertising or sponsorship on the BBC's home services, either as an alternative or a supplement to the income now received through the licence fee, including (a) the financial and other consequences for the BBC, for independent television and independent local radio, for the prospective services of cable, independent national radio and direct broadcasting by satellite, for the press and the advertising industry and for the Exchequer; and (b) the impact on the range of quality of existing broadcasting services;

To identify a range of options for the introduction, in varying amounts and on different conditions of advertising or sponsorship on some or all of the BBC's home services, with an assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of each option;

To consider any proposals for securing income from the consumer other than through the licence fee.

The greatest surprise in the Home Secretary's announcement lay in the terms of the inquiry and the identity of its chairman. Professor Alan Peacock, of Heriot-Watt University, is a well known free market economist and former vice-chancellor of the private University of Buckingham.

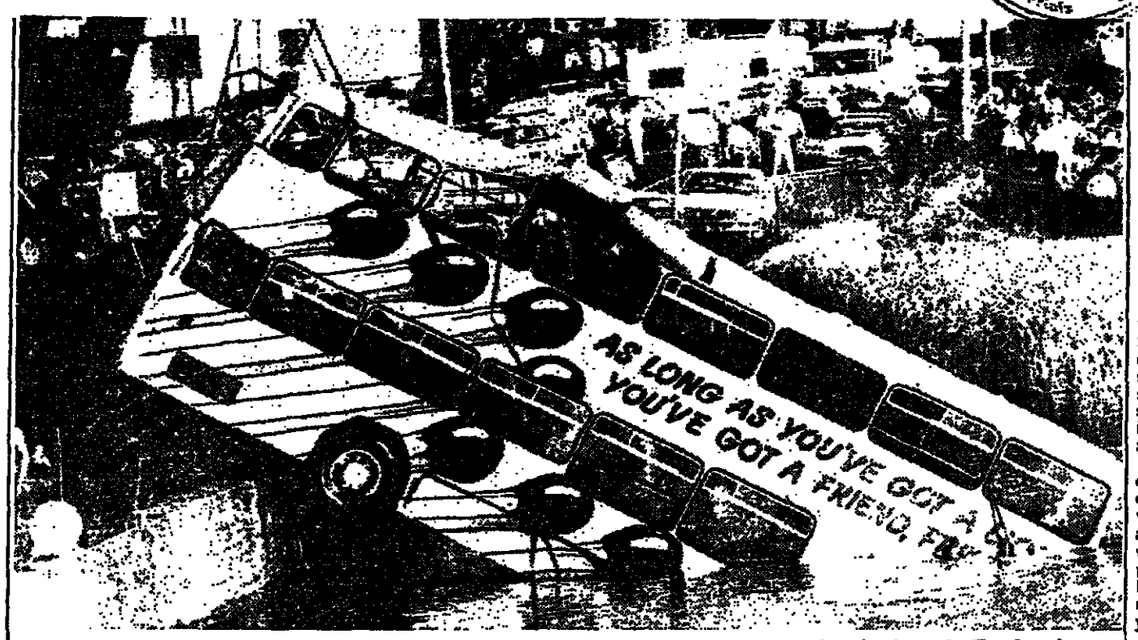
His terms of reference are directly related to the possibility of the corporation taking advertising, much to the chagrin of the Opposition spokesman on broadcasting, Mr Gerald Kaufman.

He warned Professor Peacock that the inquiry team, yet to be selected, ought to take into account that no future Labour government would allow advertising on BBC television or radio.

The Home Secretary is said to have an open mind on the possibility of introducing advertising to the corporation. He said yesterday that it was essential to consider the impact of such a move on independent broadcasting and other media supported by advertising revenue, and also on the Exchequer.

"One of the central questions for the committee is the possible impact the introduc-

Continued on back page, col 1



Thirty-five pupils from an Afrikaner high school died yesterday trapped in this bus when it plunged off a dam into a reservoir in a Johannesburg suburb. Twenty-eight children escaped.

Sterling leaps to over $1.23

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

The pound jumped more than five cents against a tumbling dollar yesterday, one of the sharpest one-day rises on record. The pound's new-found strength, against all currencies, suggests that the next cut in interest rates could be just around the corner.

Sterling rose to $1.2320 at the close in London, from $1.1812 on Tuesday. The sterling index, which measures the pound against a basket of currencies, was up 1.9 to 77.6, and the pound gained six pfennigs to DM3.8568 against the German mark, its highest level for over a year.

Later in New York, the pound rose further to $1.2360.

"Everyone wants to get into sterling", one dealer said yesterday. The pound has benefited from worries over the American economy and banking system, Britain's high interest rates attracting the funds flowing out of the dollar. US trade figures out today are expected to be bad and leading indicators, due tomorrow, may show the American economy slowing further, dealers fear.

There are also worries that after the Ohio savings bank crisis, some Texan banks could be in trouble over energy loans.

The dollar dropped eighgt pfennigs against the mark to DM3.1275. The dollar's index was down 2.3 points to 147.3.

In the money markets, the three-month interbank rate fell ¼ point to 13⅞– 13¾ per cent. The Government is adopting a cautious approach to lower interest rates but could be forced into action by the pound's strength, particularly against the European currencies.

Since February 26, when the pound plumbed a low of $1.0370 against the dollar, it has risen by 20 cents.

Kenneth Fleet, page 23

NHS doctors may be forced to retire at 65

By Nicholas Timmins

The Government is considering forcing family doctors to retire from the National Health Service at 65 as the next stage in its plans to control doctors' numbers.

The proposal is unlikely to emerge formally before the Green Paper on family practioner services in the summer. It would be the next logical step after the decision announced on Tuesday to restrict overseas doctors' entry to Britain.

Last year 1,343 family doctors in Great Britain aged over 65 – almost 5 per cent of the total – were still working for the NHS. Of those, 564 were over 70.

Ministers are likely to press the GPs to retire, though they could still practise privately, because the numbers have been growing more rapidly recently. Since 1979 the number of family doctors has inceased by about 2 per cent a year, double the earlier figure.

As a result the average number of patients on each GP's list has fallen from 2,400 to about 2,100. Ensuring that GPs do retire would slow that trend and would be likely to improve health care in inner cities, where the number of older, single-handed doctors is higher.

MacGregor system dropped in coal board shake-up

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The National Coal Board yesterday announced a reorganisation of its senior management in the wake of the year-long miners' strike. The controversial structure involving the "office of the chief executive" introduced by Mr Ian MacGregor, the NCB chairman, is being replaced. A new executive committee structure is to be introduced which will include those area directors who kept their coalfields in production during the dispute.

The NCB official position is that the new structure has been prepared over the past few months, but it is already being interpreted within the industry as a step towards returning control of the NCB to the management which has been brought up within it and has direct personal experience of the problems that need to be faced.

Mr MacGregor and Mr Peter Walker, the Energy Secretary, are believed to have been persuaded to adopt such a set-up after seeing how certain sections of the previous management reacted favourably under the pressure of the strike.

The new management will comprise an executive committee headed by Mr MacGregor and his deputy, Mr James Cowan, and other existing executive directors such as Mr Malcolm Edwards who has responsibility for sales and marketing.

Mr Ken Moses, the present director for the North Derbyshire area, which worked during the strike, will become technical director responsible for long term planning.

Mr John Northard, director of the Western area which was prominent in the drift back to work, will become operations director responsible for the day-to-day operations of the deep-mined production.

Mr Michael Eaton, the North Yorkshire area director, who was brought in mid-way through the strike to appear as NCB official spokesman, will become personnel director designate.

The two Nottinghamshire areas which worked during the dispute are to merge to become the spearhead of a revitalized coal industry, with Mr Albert Wheeler, the hardline director of the Scottish area, moving south to take charge.

The four Yorkshire areas will be merged into two, headed in the north by Mr Albert Tuke, the Doncaster area director. The Southern area will be headed by Mr Harold Taylor, director of the South Nottinghamshire area.

The significance of the Nottinghamshire area to the NCB is underlined by the fact that the new operations and technical directors will be based in the coalfield.

The two new technical and operations directors will be based in Eastwood Hall, Nottingham, one of the two area headquarters that the NCB has in the county. The merger of the two existing areas will free one of the buildings leading to increased speculation that ultimately most of the NCB's national operations will move to Nottingham, leaving a small London office for the chairman and the new executive committee.

Under the reorganization, Mr Jack Wood, North Nottingham director, Mr George Hayes, South Yorkshire area director, and Mr Phillip Weekes, South Wales area director, are to retire over the next three months.

Kidnappers free Briton with heart problems

From Robert Fisk
Beirut

After hours of being driven through the night, one of three kidnapped Britons in Lebanon – and among 13 recently abducted Westerners – was freed unharmed early yesterday in a west Beirut shopping street not far from his home.

The release of Mr Geoffrey Nash, aged 60, a metallurgist with heart problems, has provided hope of freedom to relatives of other victims.

Mr Nash was blindfolded during his car journey through Lebanon – perhaps from the Bekaa Valley – but walked the last few yards from a gunman's car to his home

"He was shaking, I guess from the after-effects of the kidnapping," his daughter, Nadia, said later. "They asked him questions and said they thought he was American. He told them he was British and did not work for the American Embassy . . . I guess they were satisfied he was not a spy".

Mr Nash received food and medicine during his two-week confinement. His wife said yesterday he had been well treated.

He travelled later to another of the family's flats in the Christian suburb of Hazmieh, and was visited by the British Ambassador, Mr David Miers. He is expected to leave Lebanon shortly.

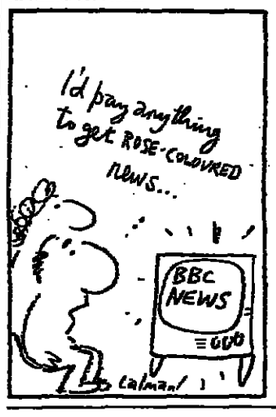
His abductors may have freed his solely on health grounds, in which case it could still take some time to release other kidnap victims, who include Mr Brian Levick, a British businessman, and Terry Anderson, the American Associated Press bureau chief in Beirut.

Death of a news team, page 8

Philips set to cut up to 10,000 jobs

Philips, the Dutch electronics group will cut up to 10,000 jobs in Europe this year as a result of its rationalization programme and further automation (Ian Griffiths writes). A spokesman for the company said that Britain was unlikely to escape the cuts.

Mr Gerrit Jeerof, a vice-president on the Philips' management board, said: "Between 5,000 and 10,000 jobs are at stake in our manufacturing plants. However, we would hope to be taking on people for the research and development side." Philips employs about 22,500 people in Britain and half would be at risk. They are involved in the manufacture of domestic appliances and colour televisions.



'Star Wars' gets mixed reception

By Henry Stanhope
Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain yesterday welcomed the United States invitation to participate in "Star Wars" research and promised that the Government would give it "urgent consideration".

But the general response to the American Defence Secretary, Mr Caspar Weinberger – who has asked for a detailed RSVP within 60 days – was looking rather mixed.

Nato defence ministers meeting yesterday in Luxembourg, where Mr Weinberger extended his invitation on Tuesday, unanimously backed President Reagan's decision to pursue research into the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

But their Governments, faced with having to decide how far they wanted to become actively involved, sounded more guarded.

Australia which along with Japan and Israel, has also been invited to participate, has turned down flat txe invitation, according to Canberra sources.

Israel and France refused to comment and West Germany issued a lengthy statement on East-West relations and arms control, without accepting or declining the invitation.

The expectation in Jerusalem and Bonn is that their governments will eventually accept.

Reagan triumph, page 6

Left defeatist over Nato, says Kinnock

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday accused Mr Tony Benn and Mr Eric Heffer, his leading left-wing opponents on the Labour national executive, of displaying "dazzling" naivete and defeatism in their call for a British withdrawal from Nato.

The executive yesterday rejected a Benn-Heffer proposal on Nato by 16 votes to 9, with Mr Michael Meacher, the shadow social services spokesman, joining the onslaught against his former Campaign Group allies.

But Mr Kinnock seized the opportunity to ram home the attack on Mr Bennand Mr Heffer, saying that their plan to create an anti-Nato Labour line would turn the party into a prime political target; leaving it without a credible defence policy for the next election.

He said that the suggestion was naive because it was partly based on the notion that the Warsaw Pact was under review and he said that it was defeatist to argue that Britain could not change the alliance from within.

The Labour leader said that a British withdrawal would make the United States even more dominant within Nato and he added: "We are there, we are going to stay there and we are going to make a difference."

Mr Meacher delighted the leadership by saying that everything had to be subordinated to a Labour victory at the next election; only then would Britain achieve a non-nuclear defence policy

He said that Labour had to unite behind agreed party conference policy and it would be very damaging to reopen it within years of the next election.

Soccer violence ultimatum

The football authorities will be told on Monday by the Prime Minister that unless they take action to put their sport in order the Government will do it for them (Philip Webster writes).

The Government may take powers to close football grounds where spectators are persistently violent or to ban alcohol at some clubs, if the Football Association and the Football League cannot convince Ministers on Monday that they have the will to take strong measures.

Ministers who last weekend studied a 20-page report from the FA outlining what it plans to do were dismayed at its apparent failure to grasp that the clubs must accept greater obligations to curb violence. After this morning's Cabinet meeting Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the ministerial group that has been discussing football violence, following the trouble at the recent Luton-Milwall game, will complete their views of what needs to be done.

Talks on Luton, page 30

NUM white collar section poised to join dissidents

By Colin Hughes

The white-collar section of the National Union of Mineworkers, COSA, is considering joining the breakaway dissident areas of Nottinghamshire, South Derbyshire, and Leicestershire.

The move would increase significantly the strength of the moderate "mutual defence pact" formed within the miners' union since the 16,500 members of COSA will bring the combined membership of moderate opponents of the national leadership to more than 60,000, roughly one-third of the national membership.

Mr Trevor Bell, general secretary of COSA, said last night: "There is no formal agreement, and we have not become a signatory to the mutual alliance pact, but we have talked and agreed that our members share common interests."

He said steps towards links between COSA and the miners' union dissidents were made when his section of the union received "about 14" motions recently for its annual conference in May calling for either increased autonomy within the miners' union for COSA, or complete breakaway.

"My own view is that our best interests are served within the national union, but within an NUM that proceeds along more constitutional lines than have been evident over the past twelve months," Mr Bell said.

Leaders of the three Midlands areas met two weeks ago and formally agreed to oppose collectively attacks on any or all three.

Mr Bell said that although he was opposed to a breakaway union, "Some of our membership are pushing us there already, and we cannot ignore their views altogether. It would be bucking a large swell of opinion."

He said no formal moves would be made until the COSA annual meeting in May had debated possible avenues.

Kinnock nominates peerages to strengthen Labour

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

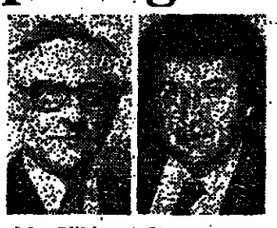
Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, has nominated a merchant banker, Mr Charles Williams, as a Labour "working peer".

His name and that of Mr Bernard Donoughue, who was senior policy adviser to successive Labour Prime Ministers from 1974 to 1979, are expected to be included on a short list of life peers being prepared at 10 Downing Street for publication in the next few days.

Mr Sam Silkin, the former Labour MP for Dulwich, who was Attorney-General from 1979-83, is also expected to be on the list.

The list is a response by the Prime Minister to urgent requests from Mr Kinnock for the Labour Party's strength in the Lords to be increased. For 20 years Labour leaders have followed the precedent set by Mr Harold Wilson and refused to recommend peerages as honours or rewards for distinguished service. They have relied instead on regular creations of life peerages for those with time and energy to play an active part.

Mr Williams is a former managing director of Baring Brothers and of Henry Ansbacher, from which he resigned in January. He was



Mr Silkin (left) and Mr Donoughue.

Labour parliamentary candidate for Colchester in 1964, and chairman of the Price Commission from 1977-79.

Mr Donoughue has held a number of senior academic posts and been prominent in journalism. He was an assistant editor of *The Times* from 1981-82, before becoming head of investment policy at the stockbrokers Grieveson Grant.

Both men have worked as senior advisers on economic matters to Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader and shadow Chancellor. Mr Williams has been concerned with financial matters, regulatory questions, exchange conrol and competition policy.

Mr Donoughue's contribution has been complementary, from his interest in macro-economics, investment and employment policy.

Together they will be equipped to fill a notable gap on Labour's front bench in the Lords.

Mr Silkin, who is deputy chairman of Mr Robert Maxwell's British Printing and Communication Corporation, is thought likely totake over in the autumn the role of Lord Elwyn-Jones, the former Lord Chancellor, as principal spokesman on legal matters for the Labour Party in the Lords.

Labour also need a Lord spokesman on Scottish legal questions, to take the place of Lord McCluskey, the former Solicitor General for Scotland who is now a judge. Mr Hugh Morton, QC, a senior member of the Faculty of Advocates, is expected to fill the gap.

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Chequers talks to give fresh drive on rating system reforms

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Prime Minister has called senior ministers to Chequers on Sunday in a move to give fresh impetus to the latest government effort to reform the rating system.

She will chair a meeting attended by Mr Patricks Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Local Government, other members of the environment ministerial team, Mr George Younger and Mr Nicholas Edwards, the secretaries of State for Scotland and Wales, and by Lord Whitelaw, deputy prime minister.

It has been summoned ostensibly to take stock of the inquiry into local government finance being conducted by Mr Baker, but it has clearly been given added urgency by the dispute about the effects of rates revaluation in Scotland which ministers fear is gravely damaging the Government's popularity.

And there is every sign that the Prime Minister, who once promised to abolished the domestic rating system, has again decided to take charge of the search for reform.

She is to meet a delegation from the Scottish Tory backbench committee today, led by Sir Hector Monroe (Dumfries), who will impress on her the need for action and the importance of being able to give some indication of the Government's thinking in time for the Scottish Tory conference in Perth in May. Whitehall sources were yesterday strongly playing down the likelihood of any new legislation on rates before the next election, or of any special measures to deal with the Scottish situation.

But Mrs Thatcher's impatience with the present system is well known, and in the Commons on Tuesday she appeared to be warning her ministers to drop their own favourite options in the pursuit of a workable scheme.

She said: "We hope to come to an agreed solution. If everyone sticks to their own pet schemes we will not get anywhere."

The presence of Lord Whitelaw a Sunday's meeting is significant. He spent last weekend talking to party activists in Scotland, and on Monday told Mrs Thatcher of the depth of hostility he had encountered over revaluation.

His report is under stood to have convinced her of the necessity of a fresh push for reform.

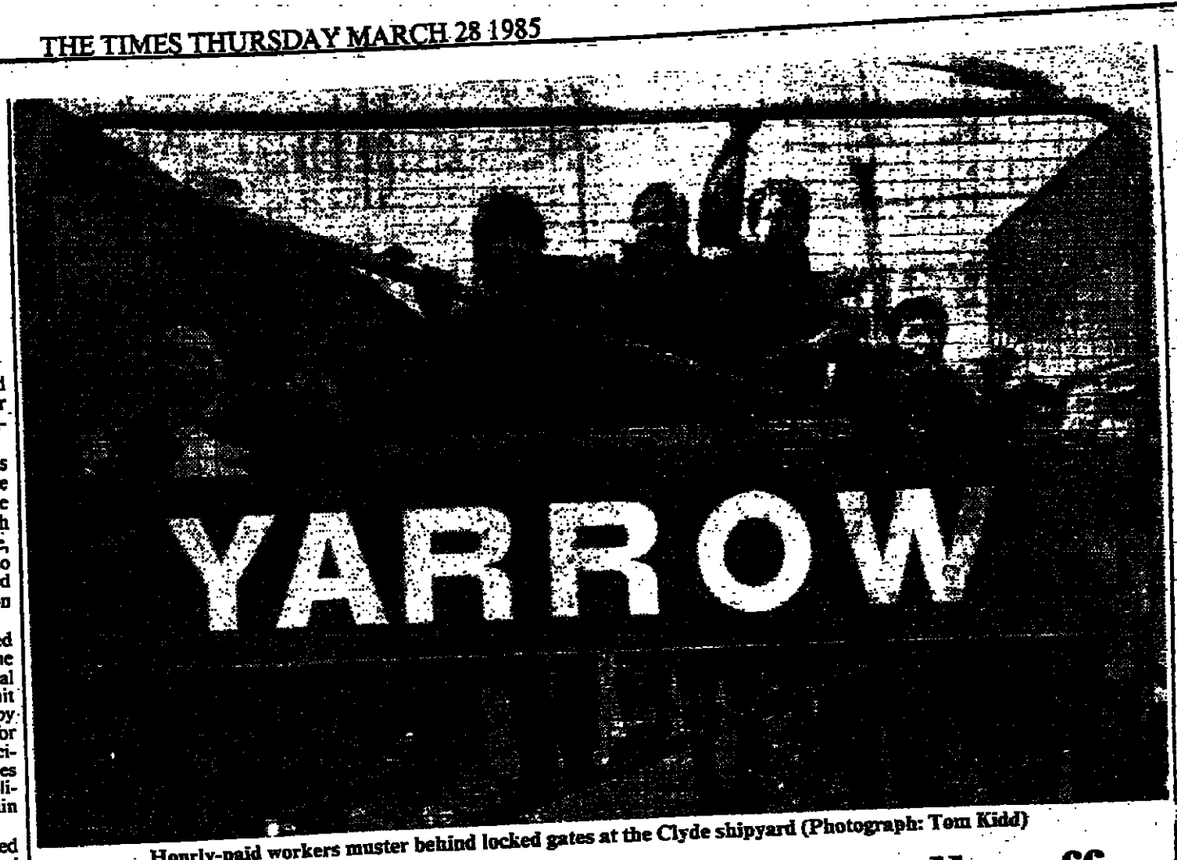
● Some councils which have delayed fixing rates want ratepayers to go on paying to avoid accumulating large debts later in the year (our Local Government Correspondent writes).

Some rate-capped councils want to continue paying in the new financial year at the same level as in 1984/85. But such requests have no legal force, and no ratepayer is obliged to pay until he or she has received a proper rate demand based on a legal rate.

Leaders of rate capped councils met yesterday in the tactics sub-group of the Local Government Information Unit to discuss the rejection by ministers of their demand for talks about finance. The Association of London Authorities and Association of Metropolitan Authorities are to try again to open negotiations

Some of the Labour-led councils which have delayed fixing a rate are expected today to drop their defiance of the Government. But a minority of the 20 councils which started the month with the intention of delaying their rate fixing are expected to continue their defiance in the new financial year.

Pressure on the minority will grow next week when they face a number of legal challenges which could lead to their removal from office.



Hourly-paid workers muster behind locked gates at the Clyde shipyard (Photograph: Tom Kidd)

Shipyard workers to decide on talks offer

By Ronald Faux

A mass meeting of the 3,800 hourly-paid workers supporting the occupation of the Yarrow shipyard on the Clyde will be held today to decide whether to accept an offer of talks from GEC, who are buying the yard from British Shipbuilders.

A spokesman for the shop stewards said yesterday that if management agreed to withdraw her suspension of five trade union conveners it was likely that the occupation would end so that talks with GEC could begin next Monday.

The workers are angry at the lack of consultation before the takeover was announced. They are demanding improvements in pay and conditions in line with other comparable private companies.

The decision to occupy the yard was taken at a mass meeting on Tuesday. Yesterday morning when the rest of the 5,300 employees arrived for work they were greeted by locked doors and gates, with the hourly-paid men allowing nobody into the yard.

Mr Doug Cowroy, the yard convenor, accused British Shipbuilders of going back on an agrrement that would have given the work force three weeks to come to a deal with any new owner, before the yard was finally sold.

Mr Bob Easton, chairman of Yarrow, said: "we haven't heard yet what the terms of GEC are. They are talking about lies, but the truth has been told to everybody".

After a number of meetings, the yard's clerical staff were sent home. Soon afterwards a police superintendent and inspector arrived, and were let in for talks with shop stewards.

Behind the men's anger at the sale lies the feeling that for years, as part of British Shipbuilders, their pay suffered because of negotiations that had to take into account the corporation's loss-making merchant yards. The Clyde workers have a long history of militancy in defending jobs

Teenagers show off Sinclair tricycle

By Bill Johnstone
Technology Correspondent

Performing what are claimed to be road tests, teenagers have been hired to drive around London increasing public awareness of the controversial electric vehicle the Sinclair C5, whose sales to date have been sluggish.

For a fee of £20 a day the teenagers drive and pedal the £399 Sinclair tricycle around London and answer any questions posed by inquisitive passers-by. About 5,000 of the C5s have been sold since the launch in January. The production target for the year is 100,000.

According to a Sinclair spokesman: "What we haven't done before are tests on inner city roads. That is what the team is doing. Marketing is not the prime function but will undoubtedly be a spin-off."

The company denied that the marketing was the prime motive for the campaign. The London team of 20 will tour the capital's road for a week showing off the vehicle. Similar forces will tour with the vehicle in Manchester, Birmingham and Leeds – the areas where the tricycle is now stocked in the high street.

Sir Clive Sinclair, the creator of the vehicle, considers the C5 a revolution in personal transport. He has been surprised that the initial response to his vehicle has not been greater and blames part of that response on the press for a lck of foresight and pessimistic reporting.

The 5,000 C5s Sinclair claims to have sold were within the first four weeks of launch and were made through mail order. The tricycle is now being stocked in about 400 retail outlets.

Government may sell property agency

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The Government is to consider privatizing the Crown Suppliers, part of the Property Services Agency, whose annual sales of goods and equipment for the public sector, including government departments and the armed forces, are worth more than £230 million.

In a Commons written answer yesterday, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced a review to investigate the future of the Crown Suppliers, to be conducted by a team led by a Cabinet Office official, and to report by the summer.

The team will "consider the future of the Crown Suppliers and in particular whether it would be in the public interest to transfer to the private sector the activities, or part thereof, at present undertaken by the organization."

Representatives of the Crown Suppliers and the Treasury will be included in the team, which will seek advice from a merchant bank. Mr Jenkin said that staff of the department, which employs more than 1,900 people, and their unions would be consulted.

The Crown Suppliers, the government trading fund, is one of the largest procurement organizations in Britain. Previously called PSA Supplies, it was relaunched as the Crown Suppliers last year with a commitment to seek a wider market within the public sector.

Since then it has increased its business, winning about 150 new customers including British Rail and several overseas governments and quasi-governmental bodies.

Since the Wardale report into fraud in the Property Services Agency, changes have been introduced in its activities, and the Government has emphasized the need for maximum efficiency.

Last year the Government's Management and Personnel Office published a report critical of the Government's purchasing policies, although the PSA emerged with credit.

Labour may disband rebel parties

Labour's national executive yesterday decided on a confrontation course against the six constituency parties that have changed their rules to incorporate black sections, a device to give blacks and asians a greater voice in party affairs.

The Vauxhall party, which includes part of Brixton, has invited rebel parties to a meeting to be held next month to discuss a united stand against the executive action, and Mr David Hughes, the national agent, said yesterday that constituency party disbandment was an eventual option in dealing with determined advocates of the black section movement.

Meanwhile, the national executive yesterday agreed that all rebel delegates should be informed of the constitutional postition.

If constituancies maintained their rebellion, Mr Hughes and a senior member of the executive would visit them in an attempt to persuade them to back down.

The education debate

How hard do teachers work?

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The stereotypes of teachers exist in the public imagination: the harassed and hardworking sort who burns the midnight oil, and the uncaring and idle who cannot get to his car fast enough at 5.30pm.

The truth probably lies somewhere in between these extremes, but nobody knows what the teachers' workload is. People look at their holidays with some envy and assume teachers have an easy job. Teachers argue that they need the breaks to recuperate from the stresses of term-time.

The issue is important because teachers are on strike for extra pay. They claim that they do an extremely onerous job conscientiously but that the Government does not appreciate them.

The only authoritative research on working hours is rather dated, but it showed in the 1970s that primary school teachers worked a 41-hour week and secondary teachers worked 43 hours a week, if their hours were averaged out over a year.

A recent survey by the National Union of Teachers found teachers in primary and secondary schools working an average of a 47-hour week. That was made up of their normal teaching load of about 27 hours, plus an extra 20 hours for such things as preparation and marking.

The earlier research, undertaken by National Foundation for Educational Research, observed teachers in only one local authority, Surrey, primary teachers are examined separately from secondary teachers. They were all chosen at random and told to keep diaries for a year.

The survey of primary teachers, in 1971, found that their working day was 8.8 hours without breaks during term-time and that they spent three-and-a-quarter hours working each weekend.

Secondary teachers were examined in a survey published in 1978. They found that they had an average of 22 minutes a day for lunch, tea and coffee breaks during the teaching day and that they worked an average of an extra three hours a day on top of their teaching.

There average working day during term-time was 8.4 hours without breaks and they spent four hours on school work at weekends.

The union's research, carried out in the last month of the autumn term last year, had a large sample, 1,012 teachers, but they were selected by union divisional secretaries. The union said that this was done to ensure a representative sample, but the employers were doubtful.

Some of the figures showed, for example, comprehensive schoolteachers working 80 extra hours a week and a middle-school teacher claimed to have worked an extra 96 hours.

A spokesman for the employers said that it was necessary to look at the teacher's overall year, because there were periods of intense activity for teachers, such as at the end of a school term, and times when they did less.

AVERAGE AND MAXIMUM 'EXTRA' HOURS A WEEK WORKED BY TEACHERS

School type	Average	Maximum
Nursery, infant, first	19.85	57.00
Primary, junior	19.46	65.00
Middle	20.75	96.50
Selective	17.61	39.00
Comprehensive	20.54	81.25
Special	19.18	88.50
Average	20.03	

Source: National Union of Teachers

AS-level exam is condemned

Many schools yesterday poured cold water on the new AS-level examination proposed in the Government's White Paper on schools, intended to broaden sixth-formers' knowledge.

One school, King Edward VI, in Morpeth, Northumberland, said that it was most unlikely that it would either want or be able to offer pupils the new examination, planned to take up half the time of A-level.

Mr Michael Duffy, the headmaster, who is chairman of the education committee of the Secoudary Heads Association, said that the AS-level would effectively narrow the A-level curriculum.

Mr Brian Tyler, head of Kingswood School in Corby, Northamptonshire, said that there were better ways of broadening the curriculum

Mr Derek Dutton, head of Richmond School, in North Yorkshire, said that the AS-level would lead to a "new kind of rat race".

● Dismay greeted yesterday's announcement that the Government is to increase numbers training to be primary school teachers by only 10,900, 2,000 fewer than the number recommended.

Soldier dies in Belfast blast

From Richard Ford
Belfast

A soldier was killed by a Provisional IRA bomb in Belfast yesterday which exploded within yards of a primary school playground and the Roman Catholic Pro-Cathedral.

The force of the blast blew out chunks of a wall adjoining the playground but because of the cold weather the children were indoors during lunchtime. Two civilians were slightly injured by the bomb which had been left in a derelict building near an allyway leading to local shops.

The soldier, in his early twenties, was serving with the King's Own Royal Border Regiment and was the last person in a joint Army and police patrol. He caught the full force of the explosion as they walked through the strongly republican Divis complex in west Belfast.

Hsi death brought angry condemnation from mothers living near by who ran in a state of shock and panic to St Comgall's school fearing that their children had been injured in the attack.

Last night the Army were trying to get in touch with the next ofd kin of the dead man who live overseas before releasing his name. He is the first member of the Regular Army to die in Northern Ireland this year, and only the second Regular soldier to be killed in Belfast since the beginning of 1984.

High death rate in animal shipments

By Tony Samstag

Most animals captured in the wild for export die before reaching their final destination, a conservation group said yesterday.

The Environmental Investigation Agency has called for a moratorium on the import of all wild animals and a strengthening of the regulations designed to protect them from "injury, damage to health and cruel treatment".

A report on the treatment of wild animals during air transport showed that of the total deaths, which may be as high as 80 per cent to 90 per cent, most occurred during or immediately after capture; about 4 per cent during transit; and 20 per cent during the subsequent quaratine period, the agency said.

The authors of the report studied the records of the City of London Animal Quarantine Station and the airport hostel of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals at Heathrow Airport, London, between 1977 and 1983, when 1.5 million specimens were handled.

Many animals during transit are crowded into unsuitable containers, with inadequate food, water, and ventilation.

Member nations of Cites are to meet in Buenos Aires next month to consider resrictions on trade in live fauna. The agency report, which includes more than 60 suggested amendments to the IATA regulations, will be presented to the meeting.

Injury, damage to health, and cruel treatment: present conditions in the shipment of live fauna (Environmental Investigation Agency, 23b Highbury Crescent, London N5 1RX, £5 inc p&p).



A giant squirrel measured against its plastic container (top) and an illustration of the method used to stack the tubes in transit.

Case histories of cruelty, Heathrow Airport, 1978-82:-

1. Two Canadian river otters out of 10 survive in inadequately ventilated crates. Air Canada fined £1,200.
2. 10 howler monkeys and 20 capuchin monkeys shipped from Paraquay to London via Lima and Paris: 84 hours without attention in two crates 8in high. Two capuchins dead on arrival, all howler monkeys died in quarantine. Air France fined £1,700.
3. 19 armadillos in unsuitable crates: four dead on arrival, three loose in aircraft hold. National Airlines ceased trading before case could be heard.
4. 29 squirrel monkeys, 15 with tails tied together as the result of frantic movement in their crate on journey from Bolivia to Japan, via Lima, Madrid and London. Six dead. Iberia Airline fined £400.
5. Two crates containing 1,000 garter snakes from Miami. Of 800 snakes in one crate, only two survive; 76 out of 200 in the second. National Airline fined £10,000, reduced to £2,500 on appeal.

CBI warning of Labour victory on jobless

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry began an eight-month series of consultations yesterday on its new medium-term strategy document for the future of business while reiterating its warning that the free enterprise society was under threat from the "blight of unemployment".

The task of explaining the confederation's latest views on how business and commerce could meet the challenge of uemploymet were outlined by Sir James Cleminson, its president, who addressed the organization's Sheffield region.

He said CBI members throughtout the country are to be asked for their opinions on the wide-ranging consultation document which says that without radical measures to curb unemployment, "state control of the economy will be increasingly seen as an alternative".

Among the proposals members are asked to consider are far-reaching constitutional changes including an extension of the life of a government from five to seven years, an end to the secrecy surrounding the annual Budget

Yorkshire might have been atom bomb test site

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Atomic weapons scientists at Aldermaston considered coastal sites in Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Scotland for atom bomb detonations which were eventually switched to Australia.

It was disclosed at the royal Australian commission's hearing on the bomb trials in London last week that a test site at Duncansby Head, near Wick, Caithness, had been ruled out because of the wet weather in the area.

But declassified documents released to Mr George Foulkes, Labour MP for Carrick Cumnock and Doon Valley, yesterday disclosed that two other sites had also been considered in 1953: Skipsea, between Bridlington and Hull, on the Yorkshire coast; and a Royal Air Force bombing range called Donna Nook, on the coast near Mablethorpe, in Lincolnshire.

Scientists visited Skipsea and Donna Nook in 1953 and one Aldermaston official reported that they both had an extensive foreshore, with public rights of way which would have to be fenced off, that there were bungalows and beach huts nearby

Nevertheless, he concluded: "The most suitable of the sites seen is Skipsea, for quick action must be taken as it is about to be relinquished by the RAF. I feel, however, that local feeling aroused by Atomic Research Establishment use of it would be very considerable."

Two months later, in a discussion of the relative merits of Wick and Australia, Sir William (now Lord Penney, then director of the research establishment, wrote to Sir John Cockcroft, the government's scientific adviser, that contaminated debris would be a "problem".

Mr Foulkes said last night that it was appalling that the health and safety of the local population was regarded as such an insignificant material issue.

Mr Kevin McNamara, MP for Hull North and a Labour defence spokesman, said he was "flabbergasted" that Skipsea should have been considered.

Mr John Townend, Conservative MP for Bridlington, containing SKipsea, said that the area would have been a most inappropriate place.

Mirror anger over readers' ombudsman

Journalists working for the *Daily Mirror* group are likely to boycott a new "ombudsman" appointed by Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, to deal with readers' complaints. The job has gone to Sir William Wood, aged 68, a former civil servant.

The *Mirror* chapel (office branch) of the National Union of Journalists, says it was not properly consulted about the appointment. officials are warned that the ombudsman's brief will lead to disciplining of members. The chapel is expected to meet today to discuss the matter.

Mr Maxwell said yesterday he knew nothing about objections from the NUJ.

● The National Union of Journalists, at its annual meeting in Bristol yesterday, decided to organise a "public inquiry" into the "distorted" media coverage of the miners strike. Delegates condemned "blatant bias" against striking miners.

Delegates also voted overhwelmingly to defy last year's Trade Union Act, making the NUJ the first union to pronounce on the legislation, which covers ballots for the election of officers

Meeting sought with Brittan on phone tap

The Trades Union Congress is seeking an urgent meeting with Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary to protest at alleged telephone tapping of union officials involved in political or industrial disputes.

A TUC delegation led by Mr Norman Willis, the general secretary, will meet Mr Brittan to demand that union leaders should be allowed to carry out their normal duties without fear of having telephone conversations intercepted.

The TUC hopes that the meeting can be held within the next two weeks. It will criticize what it sees as the limited scope of the inquiry under Lord Bridge, which investigated the tapping claims in a Channel Four television programme.

Cocaine haul has tripled

Cocaine seized in Britain by customs officials has more than tripled during the past year, Mr David Mellor, a junior Home Office minister, disclosed last night.

In the first two months of 1984 ten kilograms were confiscated compared with three kilograms for the same period last year, he told the Commons home affairs select committee.

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Man in the news: Alan Peacock

Free market economist's critical look at BBC

By David Smith,
Economics Corrspondent

Professor Alan Peacock, aged 62, chairman of the inquiry on BBC efficiency, confesses that he frequently falls asleep in front of the television. He hastens to add that this is probably not the fault of television and that he is "a keen watcher of sport, music, even the news".

Professor Peacock was a free market economist well before it became fashionable. As such, he has avoided the extremes adopted by more recent converts. He describes himself as liberal in the tradition of John Stuart Mill, rather than the Austrian school

His academic reputation has been built on the analysis of public expenditure and the application of market principles to areas such as education. In the early sixties he was one of the first proponents of education vouchers for use in the state school system.

He was appointed chief economic adviser to the department of Trade and Industry in the summer of 1973 and, somewhat surprisingly kept on when Labour won the 1974 general electon. He served under Tony Benn until 1976, fighting a losing battle against industrial subsidies.

Professor Peacock returned to York University until 1978, before moving on to University college, Buckingham, the "free enterprise university".

Buckingham, set up as an independent alternative to the state universities by, among others, Lord Beloff, obtained its Royal Charter in 1983 when Professor Peacock was principal.

He left at the end of this year and is at present part-time professor of economics at Heriot-Watt University. The rest of the time, he said, is devoted to projects such as the BBC inquiry.

Professor Peacock said yesterday that his task would be to look at the problem in depth and that he was not starting with preconceptions about whether, for example, there should be advertising on the BBC.

His overall economic stance is that "I think markets work or can be made to work." A keen amateur musician and occasional composer, he is the veteran of about 10 committees or commissions of inquiry, including one completed two years ago, which examined the effect of inflation on the arts.



Professor Peacock

The Times overseas selling prices: Austria Sch 29; Belgium fr 45; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 175; Cyprus 700 mils; Denmark Dkr 9.00; Finland Mk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 120; Holland Gl 3.50; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2500; Luxembourg fr 38; Madeira Esc 120; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 8.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 175; Sweden Skr 9.50; Switzerland fr 2.50; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Din 180

Sports chiefs warned to combat drug abuse or risk losing grants

The governing bodies of 50 sports organizations were told by the Sports Council yesterday that unless they took measures to combat drug abuse they risk losing cash grants and the use of national sports centres.

Mr Dick Jeeps, chairman of the Sports Council, told the meeting on drug abuse held in London yesterday: "It is time that more sports declared themselves willing to fight this scourge. We do not want 'chemical athletes' in this country.

"We are determined to expand random testing in sport. We do not want to take financial sanctions but we may have to if it is the only way to stamp out drug abuse."



Mr Jeeps: "We do not want chemical athletes".

Governing bodies will be asked to submit their proposals for anti-doping programmes by the end of June and during that month the Sports Council will decide on the action it will take against those unwilling to implement effective steps.

The council has distributed its guidelines on anti-doping regulations and procedures to all sports, including a recommendation that a life ban should be imposed in every case of blatant abuse.

Since 1979, when subsidized tests were introduced, the council has spent more thn £500,000 on the drugs testing programme, research and funding of the Drugs Control and Teaching Centre at Chelsea College.

In spite of 100 per cent subsidies to meet testing costs, only 25 sports have carried out tests during the past six years and some on a very limited scale.

The council is to spend another £200,000 in the next year in an attempt to control the problem.

The British Olympic Association has also asked the International Olympic Committee to insist that all competitors agree to random testing.

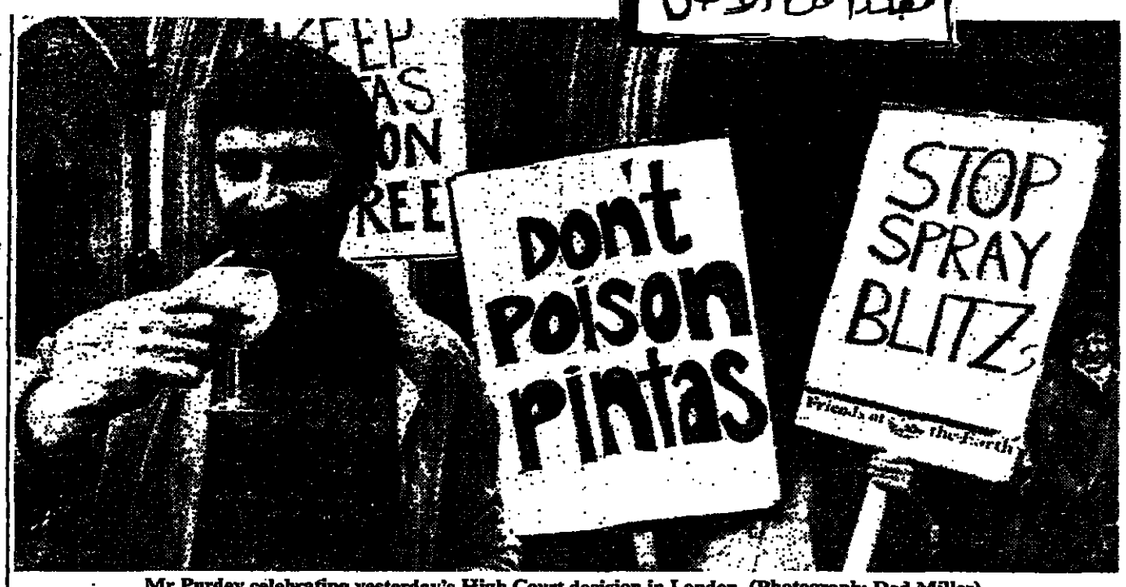
Mr Charles Palmer, the British Olympic chairman, said: "We have had an acknowledgement but no reply. We shall continue pushing."

Later in the meeting, Daley Thompson's claims of widespread drug-taking among British athletes were backed by Sir Arthur Gold, president of the European Athletic Association. He said that about half were guilty.

Daley Thompson, the Olympic and world decathlon champion, said last month that up to a third of Britain's track and field internationals had taken drugs.

Mr Paul Dickenson, chairman of Britain's International Athletics' Club, had previously estimated that six out of ten did

Sir Arthur maintained that the root cause was in the United States where Daley Thompson had claimed that 80 per cent of athletes took drugs. Sir Arthur said: "Much of it would stop if athletes were not having to keep up with the American Joneses'."



Mr Purdey celebrating yesterday's High Court decision in London. (Photograph: Dod Miller).

Farmer wins review of cattle spray order

Mark Purdey, a Somerset farmer, was allowed yesterday to ask a High Court judge to review the Ministry of Agriculture's decision to spray his herd of Jersey cows to protect them from warble fly.

The ministry was due to go to his farm this week to spray the 83 cows with a treatment Mr Purdey, aged 31, has refused to use because he claims it endangers human health.

Mr Purdey, of Dene Farm, Halse, Taunton, wants to treat the cows with a natural plant insecticide. Earlier this week he failed to get a court injunction to stop the ministry moving in after serving him with an enforcement notice because of his failure to comply with the Animal Health Act, 1981.

Mr Justice Woolf yesterday granted leave for judicial review of the decision, enforcement of which is now delayed by the ministry pending the outcome of a full court hearing

● A campaign to outlaw pesticide residues in food was launched yesterday by Friends of the Earth

Mr Chris Rose, the group's countryside campaigner, pointed out that according to the Ministry of Agriculture between 97 per cent and 99 per cent of fresh fruit, cereals and vegetables were sprayed

Vegetarians step up meat battle

By John Young
Agriculture Corrrespondent

The war between vegetarians and butchers for the nation's stomach intensified yesterday with the appointment by the Vegetarian Society of a chief executive determined "to make meat a thing of the past by the end of the century".

Mr Peter Cox, aged 30, an international marketing consultant, said that the society had already received more than 7,000 inquiries this year.

One of the main battlegrounds would be in schools, he said, where the meat industry had made it plain that it was going for the hearts and minds of young people. But young people already knew that "meat is murder" and would not accept expensive advertising that tried to hide the truth from them.

The society claims that vegetarianism is growing by 60 per cent a year and that on present trends half of the population will be vegetarian by 1991.

The meat industry's response is that this is a facile misuse of statistics, similar to assuming that if a greengrocer sells 100lb of lentils this year and 200lb next year, he will be selling more than 16 tonnes by the year 2000.

But there is no doubt that the industry, which has seen a 20 per cent decline in red meat consumption since the late 1960s, only partially compensated for by the increasing popularity of poultry, is extremely worried about the impact of vegetarianism.

Chemicals threat

Greenpeace, the conservation group, claimed yesterday that a cargo of toxic chemicals regularly shipped through the river Mersey could produce a massive disaster if an accident happened. The loads of volatile lead compounds are carried on tankers from the Associated Octel plant at Ellesmere Port, Cheshire.

Two guilty in 'high society' drugs case

Two Lesbian lovers in the "high-society" drugs trial were found guilty yesterday of supplying heroin and cocaine. Diana Willis, aged 42, an antiques dealer and her lover Vivian Wyatt, aged 32, are expected to be given prison sentences at a later date.

Judge Edwards remanded the pair in custody until April 15 for social inquiry reports, and said: "For neither defendant am I considering probation nor indeed am I considering anything less than a sentence of imprisonment."

An 11-man jury at Knightsbridge Crown Court found the pair guilty of supplying drugs to Christopher Aird Bennett, aged 29, a former Coutts Bank employee, of Chancery Lane, Beckenham, Kent.

The two women were cleared of supplying drugs to Emma De Vere Hunt, a millionaire's daughter and former girl friend of Lord Glenconner's son, Charles Tennant.

Wyatt was also found guilty of possessing heroin with intent to supply and on two counts of possession. She was cleared of supplying cocaine to Midy Herskovits, an hotelier's daughter.

Police Constable Robert Harvey, who led the investigation, said Willis was the dominant "business" partner

PC Harvey, of the Notting Hill drugs squad in n west London, told the court: "There is no doubt in my mind Dianna Willis was the organizer and the brain. She was very much in control of this business-like operation."

Willis, of Buckley House, Addison Road, Holland Park, and Wyatt, of De Vere Gardens, Kensington, had denied all charges.

Anger over Oates' papers sale

By Michael Horsnell

The sale yesterday of documents from the black tin deed box of Captain Lawrence Oates, by Christies in London for £4,536, has angered the Antarctic explorer's closest descendant.

Captain Robin Oates, nephew of the officer, who died on Captain Scott's expedition to the South Pole in 1912, attacked Christie's for the alleged secrecy surrounding the sale.

Lot 84, containing letters from various correspondents to Mrs Caroline Oates about her son's death, together with photographs and newspaper cuttings, was sold by an anonymous vendor to an unknown English private collector.

Captain Oates, aged 65, who lives in Essex, a few hundred yards from the family's former ancestral home at Gestingthorpe, had wanted the memorabilia to go either to the Oates Memorial Museum in Selborne, Hampshire, or to the explorer's regiment, the Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards.

But Christie's declined to tell him the name of the vendor, which would have enabled him to attempt to arrange a sale that would have given the regiment first refusal

At the auction Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Cordingly, the regiment's commanding officer and trustee of the museum, was outbid.

Captain Oates, who holds the Military Cross for service in North Africa, said: "I wrote twice to the auctioneers but they wouldn't help."

The regiment paid £50,000 a few months ago at Sotheby for the Polar Medal won by Oates.

Sale room, page 16

Jury is asked: Who killed child?

A jury at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday it was the Crown's case that the death of Jasmine Beckford, aged four, who died from punches to her head, was murder and "nothing else".

Mr Kenneth Richardson, for the prosecution, said: "Those punches were fairly hard and there was more than on of them. Remember the condition this child was in before those punches".

he was making his closing speech in the trial of Maurice Beckford, aged 25, a scaffolder of College Road Kensal Rise, north London, who has denied murdering the child on July 5 last year. He has admitted two charges of cruelty and two of assault, causing actual bodily harm.

Beverly Lorrington, aged 24, the mother of the child, also of College Road, Kensal Rise, changed her plea, on Tuesday, from not guilty to guilty of two charges of wilful neglect of the child.

Mr Richardson told the jury: "You have to decide who killed Jasmin. If you decide it was not Beckford, that is the end of it. "If you decide it was, and the crown says the evidence is abundant and conclusive, the prosecution then go on to say that this can only be murder, and for you to call it by any lesser name will be getting close to a travesty".

The prosecution has claimed that the girl was ill-treated

Judge, Pigot, QC, the Common Serjeant of London, adjourned the trial, saying he would be sending the jury out this morning to consider its verdict.

Royal Assent for marriage

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, told the Lords yesterday that Royal Assent has been granted to a private Marriage Enabling Act allowing Mr Alan Monk, a van driver, to marry his former mother-in-law, Mrs Valerie Hill.

Under common law Mr Monk and Mrs Hill, who live at Ashford, Kent, were forbidden to marry, and a special Act of Parliament was needed before a register office ceremony could take place.

£25m new shows on Channel 4

A £25 million package of new programmes for the spring was announced by Channel Four yesterday, including new drama and comedy productions and a special sports programme for the unemployed.

London taxi driver Dave Griffiths will find fame at Easter when he stars as Handel in a film about the composer.

Mr Griffiths, aged 52, a bit part actor for 30 years and for the past 10 years a London cab driver, will star with Trevor Howard in *God Rot Tunbridge Wells*.

There will be two new situation comedies, with Fulton Mackay and Bernard Bresslaw in *Man's Best Friend*, and Paula Wilcox in *The Bright Side*.

There will be a special sports programme aimed at the unemployed and people living in inner city areas. *Ever Thought of Sport?* – six half-hour programmes produced with the Sports Council – will show young people that they can take up sport wherever they live

Insurance link by computers

By Bill Johnstone
Technology Correspondent

Britain's insurance brokers can be connected to leading insurance companies by high-speed telecommunications network in the autumn through a new service offered by British Telecom.

About 100 brokers will take part in a pilot scheme immediately. The brokers will be able, through the BT network and their own desk-top terminals, to be connected to the computers of the insurance companies and able to give customers instant quotes. The insurance groups are Commercial Union, Phoenic, the Prudential, Save and Prosper, Standard Life and Sun Life.

The new service, known as Mediat, will be launched nationally in the autumn.

● British Telecom, which will have the biggest annual general meeting for shareholders seen in Britain, is hiring parts of the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham to stage the event in September.

40 police end occupation of women's hospital

More than forty women police officers forcibly entered the South London Hospital for Women early yesterday, ending a nine-month occupation by women protesters trying to prevent its closure.

The police found boobytraps when they entered the building, Commander Alex Marnoch, of the Metropolitan Police, claimed.

"The entry was made by force and to get through the premises a number of obstacles had to be negotiated, including barricades and traps which had clearly been designed to injure", Mr Marnoch added.

A High Court eviction order was issued last week, and at 3am yesterday the police moved into the 73-year-old hospital, on the south side of Clapham Common. They found 29 women barricaded in parts of the building and had to enter through ground-floor windows.

During the operation, Mr Marnoch said two protesters were arrested for obstruction the police but they were later released without charge.

It was the first time an all-female force had been used by his district for such an operation, Mr Marnoch said.



Scimitar SSI on sale

The Reliant Scimitar SS1, the first popular-price two-seat sports car since the MG Midget and the Triumph Spitfire, has reached the showrooms (Our Motoring Correspondent writes).

The plastic-body SS1 attracted great interest when it was displayed at the Motor Show last October. Many visitors placed orders, although the car's unusual construction, with mass-produced plastic panels bolted to a steel frame, was largely untested.

On sale today, the 1300cc model costs £6,995 and the 1600cc £7,795, making them realistic alternatives to sporting hatchbacks such as Ford's £7,274 Escort XR 3i. Both SS1 models use Ford engines, gearboxes and axles.

The plastic body, whose panels can be replaced, is approved of by insurance companies.

Fraud loophole in computers

By Our Technology Correspondent

The ignorance of older management about computers and how they can be easily misused and their security breached, is the principal reason why trusted employees are able to perpetrate million pound frauds.

The criticisms are contained in a report published today by the Audit Commission, based on 77 cases of fraud involving more than £1 million.

A large number of frauds were perpetrated by long-serving employees in trusted positions. 75 per cent of the reported frauds involved unauthorized altering of data, and in most cases the opportunity to carry out the fraud should have been obvious to the company's management.

"While new entrants in organizations are increasingly familiar with computing, middle and senior management are invariably not. The new generation is ready to grasp the potential whereas others may fail to grasp the implications".

More computer frauds occurred than were ever reported, and even simple controls could eliminate a number of the frauds.

Enquiries: Audit Commission (1 Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PN).

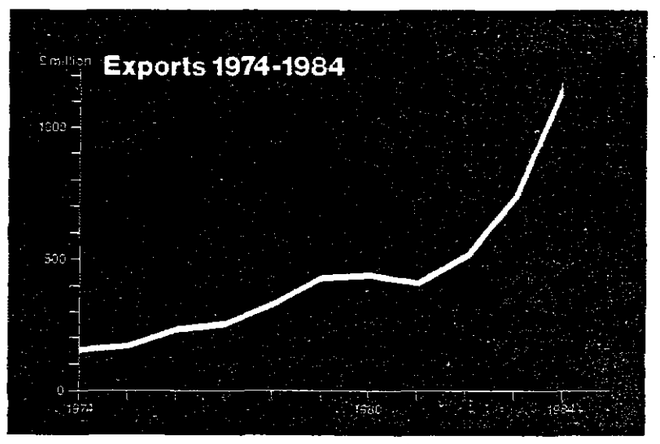
Update on IBM, March 1985. No.3

IBM exports take off.

In five years, IBM has climbed from Britain's 14th largest exporter to 6th position.* Exports last year were £1,175 million – an increase of 58% in one year alone.

IBM UK exports Information Technology equipment to customers in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

This export success helps maintain 4,700 manufacturing jobs in Greenock, Scotland and Havant, Hampshire, which together export 85% of their production – including the best selling IBM Personal Computer.



OVER 1,300 NEW JOBS

IBM's export success is a major factor in the company's continued employment expansion: 1,380 new jobs were created at IBM last year. IBM UK now employs over 17,500 people.

INVESTING MORE THAN TWO MILLION POUNDS A WEEK

IBM's exports also contribute to profits, much of which are then reinvested in Britain.

Capital expenditure in 1984 was £149 million, and included investment in manufacturing expansion.

That's a rate of £2.8 million a week.

SUPPORTING JOBS AMONGST SUPPLIERS

IBM uses UK suppliers wherever possible. By doing so, the company estimates it has either created, or at least sustains, 8,000 supplier jobs in Britain.

WHY EXPORTS MATTER TO BRITAIN

The growth in demand for Information Technology is turning Britain into a major importer of IT supplies.

The NEDC reported that the 1983 balance of trade deficit for the UK was at least £800 million, and possibly more than twice as much. In contrast, IBM invests where it does business and has historically kept an approximate balance between its exports and imports.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, WRITE TO IBM UNITED KINGDOM LIMITED, EXTERNAL PROGRAMMES, SOUTH BANK, LONDON SE1 9PZ.

*Source: Times 1000 1979-80, 1984-85.

PARLIAMENT MARCH 27 1985 £58 TV licence • Trade questions • Improving the railways

Inquiry into ways of funding BBC

BROADCASTING

The increase of the colour television licence fee from £46 to £58 and for black and white from £15 to £18 was greeted noisily when Mr Leon *Brittan, Home Secretary made the* announcement in a Commons statement.

He also announced an inquiry *into the future financing of the BBC,* including the impact of advertising, *if that were introduced, on other* media.

That announcement was met by Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition *spokesman on home affairs,* with the pledge that there were no circumstances, whatever the outcome of the inquiry, in which a Labour Government would permit advertising on BBC television or radio.

Mr Kaufman also promised that a future Labour Government would ensure that no retirement pensioner would have to pay a licence fee.

Mr Brittan said that would cost £325 million a year. He said later that the demeanour of BBC representatives on hearing what the increased fees would be was not that of victors.

Mr Brittan said: *As the House knows, the corporation applied last year for an increase in the colour* licence to £65 and in the black and white licence to £18 to last for a further three years.

This application has stimulated renewed discussion about the possibility and desirability of some or all of the BBC's services being financed through advertising or by *other means than the licence fee.*

The issues raised are complex. In *my view, they required more* detailed, careful and above all comprehensive analysis than they have so far received before any conclusions can be reached.

I am therefore appointing a committee to review all of these matters and I am glad to announce that Professor Alan Peacock, chief *economic adviser to the Depart*ments of Industry and Trade from 1973 to 1976, more recently Vice-Chancellor of the University of Buckingham, and now at Heriot Watt University, has agreed to chair it. I hope to announce the other members of the Committee before long.

The review will be required to assess the effects of the introduction *of advertising or sponsorship on the* BBC's home services either as an alternative or a supplement to the income now recieved through the licence fee and to identify a range of options with an indication of their advantages and disadvantages. One of the central questions for the Committee is the possible impact *the introduction of advertising* would have on the character and quality of all broadcast services.

I must stress that the appointment of the committee does not in any way imply that the Government has decided to make changes in the present arrangements, still less changes of any particular character.

I hope the committee will have completed its work by the summer of next year, after which its conclusions will have to be carefully considered.

I have therefore decided that the present licence fee settlement should be for a period of two years with the intention that any possible changes in the system of financing broadcasting should be considered in the light of the committee's report before the licence fee falls to be further renewed.

But if decisions cannot be made in the light of the report within two years, or it is decided there should be no change to the system, this settlement will run for a third year with the licence fee continuing at *the rates I am announcing today.*

The BBC should therefore plan its *expenditure for the next three years* on the basis that it must for that *period* live within the income equivalent to that generated by fees *at the level announced today.*

As to the level of the fee, my task has, as always, been to balance the interests of the licence fee payer with the need to ensure that the corporation's home services are adequately funded.

I start from the present cost of operating the BBC's services. The *1981 settlement provided the BBC* with an income at the rate of £46 per *colour licence until the end of* March 1985. Taking account of inflation, it was clearly understood at the time that the effect of this was that the BBC would be spending at less than the rate of £46 per licence at the beginning and more at the end of the period. *Currently services are* being provided at a cost of *approximately* £51 per colour licence.

There will no doubt be some inescapable cost increases over the next three years, and the corpration would like to improve and enhance its services in various ways. On the other hand, it is right that the BBC should strive for greater efficiency and economy, and there is a limit to what licence fee payers can reasonably be expected to afford.

In accordance with previous practice I do not propose to give a detailed account of he way in when I hve balanced these various factors *and it will be for the corporation* to decide how to use the money available to it.

I believe, however, that the BBC could and must achieve greater productivity than it has dne in te past r has so far planned for the future. The BC aready has a useful programme of activity reviews and has stressed its commitment to achieving value for money.

But, in the light of the report from Peat Marwick & Mitchell com*missioned* by the BBC with my agreement and subsequently published, I believe there is scope for the BBC to achieve greater efficiency through improved management procedures and strengthened management attitudes.

The BBC has already produced an action plan to implement all but two of the specific recommendations in the Peat Marwick report by the end of *1985-86,* with three quarters of them being implemented within the *next six months. The governors will* also be calling for reports every six *months not only on the implemen*tation of these specific recommen*dations and the continuous pro*gramme of activity reviews but also *on the management training* programme and other steps designed to ensure that the change in emphasis in management style and *approach sought by Peat is being* achieved.

Taking all the various factors into account, I believe a settlement substantially below the level requested by the BBC should enable the corporation to maintain its present level and range of services. But the BBC's ability to enhance its services will depend very largely on the degree to which it achieves the improvements in efficiency that I *have referred to.*

On this basis I have decided to increase the fee for a colour television from £46 to £58 and for a *monochrome* licence from £15 to £18.

I have laid the necessary regulations which bring the new fees into effect at midnight tonight.

I, of course, recognize that the licence fee represents a substantial sum for many people, particularly so when it is seen as an annual payment. There are now a number of schemes to enable those who wish to do so to spread the cost in advance over the year.

In addition to the television savings stamp scheme it is possible for people to pay towards their next licence by instalments through a



Bruinvels: Seen as a victory for BBC

direct debit from their bank account or by cash instalments over post office counters. Payments may also be made by credit card. But I am conscious that far too few people pay for their licences in any of these ways compared with the number who would find the licence fee easier to pay if they did so.

I shall therefore be urgently examining with the BBC and the Post Office whether any improvements can be made in these arrangements and whether any new arrangements can be made to help people to pay the licence fee without greatly increasing costs of administration or imposing extra burdens on the taxpayer.

I appreciate that the review I have *announced will lead to a period of* uncertainty, not only for the BBC but for the *other media,* in particular independent broadcasting. But our broadcasting system has inevitably had to develop over the years, and there is nothing new in the fact that it has to face the *possibility of change now.*

What will not change is the Government's commitment to broadcasting services which achieve the highest standards, in quality, popularity and diversity of consumer choice.

Mr Kaufman: The statement is *another example of the shoddy and* opportunistic approach which has characterized *Mr Brittan's tenure of* office.

The Government has announced the wrong inquiry. An inquiry into the finances of the BBC and broadcasting in general is one thing; *an inquiry solely on the effects of* the introduction of advertising and its results is unacceptable.

It is based on the assumption that advertising is the only alternative system worth considering that is an assumption we utterly reject.

Whatever the outcome of the inquiry, there are no circumstances in which a Labour Government would permit advertising either on BBC television or radio.

Professor Peacock must take this into account in his activities. (conservative laughter and shouts of "Why?). The Tories who jeer are those who will not be here when the licence...

Despite shortcomings we could all illustrate, this country has the *highest standards of broadcasting* and television in the world. Its *standards are set, and maintained* by the ITV, by the BBC as a public broadcasting organization. It is that standard which prevails in this ocuntry and to which ITV has to live up.

Advertising would change the nature of BBC permanently and irrevocably and we reject it. As the licence fee rises, it becomes more regressive. The lower the income, *the bigger the burden.* Schemes for staggering it over the year do not make it any less a burden.

The Labour Government will consider how the licence cost might be taken into account in assessing the needs of those on supplementary benefit and will *phase out the* licence so that no retirement *pensioner* will have to pay a television licence.

Television is one of the few pleasures available for many pensioners. We shall make sure that that pleasure is not taxed and I make that statement clearly and firmly on behalf of the Labour Party and of the next Government of this *country* (*Labour cheers and Con*servative laughter).

Mr Brittan: His strictures might have carried just a touch more *weight if they were not the strictures* applied to everything on every *occasion. They are of a ritualistic* character which totally debases them.

As for the wrong inquiry relating to advertising only, he is mistaken. It does not relate only to advertising but to sponsorship – (Labour laughter) – and the question of considering any other proposals for securing income from the consumer than the licence fee. It would include much measures as subscription.

As for his ringing statement that in no circumstances will a Labour *Government permit advertising,* that is not something we greatly fear because it is unlikely to be put to the test.

He referred to the highest standards of broadcasting. I do not disagree. The question is not whether standards should be reduced but how they should be financed.

He went on to make another ringing statement that pensioners would no longer have to pay a licence fee.

The cost of implementing that pledge would be £325 million a year. If he thinks that carries any credence or that it will succeed in putting him in the position where *his will be the decision whether* advertising should be taken or not he gravely misjudges the good judgement of the British people.

Mr Mark Carlisle (Warrington South, C): Although many will find *the increase from £46 to £58* considerable, the TV licence is still *one of the best examples of value for* money in the country.

Will the inquiry be allowed to look at the scope of the role of the BBC? Will the terms of reference not prevent the committee deciding there should be no advertising on the BBC?

Mr Brittan: I do not see how it could fail to look closely at what the BBC is doing. It will be open to the *inquiry to come to the conclusion* be mentioned.

Mr Joe Ashton (Bassetlaw, Lab): The committee could look at sponsorship in sport and advertising currently taking place on the BBC.

Mr Brittan: The question of sponsorship is included in the committee's terms of reference.

Mr Tim Brinton (Gravesham, C): We should look at sponsored programmes but deny the BBC straight advertising. If the BBC advertises there is a question mark as to whether we even need a BBC.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): Some of us would *be more enthusiastic about an* increase in the licence fee if the BBC generally showed a more patriotic stance and, for instance, did not denigrate our national heroes.

Mr Robin Corbett (Birmingham, Erdington, Lab): *Will he give an* assurance that he is not implying by *the appointment of this inquisition* that he expects it to come to his foregone conclusion that there should be advertising, especially on BBC1 and BBC2.

Mr Brittan: I do not have a foregone conclusion.

Mr Peter Bruinvels (Leicester East, C): This new fee will be seen as a victory for the BBC. Will he make it clear that unless it economises and accepts some limited advertising, it cannot expect to keep having such increases?

Mr Brittan: When I told the BBC yesterday what I was going to announce their demeanour on *emerging from my room was not* that of victors.

MPs press Channon to renew MFA

TEXTILES

Mr Paul Channon, Minister of Trade, came under intense pressure from both sides of the Commons to give an assurance that the Government was committed to renewal of the multi-fibre arrangement.

He said the Government was consulting all interested parties – he was seeing some of them tomorrow (Thursday) – and would announce a decision in due course. Asked when that would be, he said it would be before July when the decision had to be taken.

He undertook to take into account the views expressed during the question time exchanges. He did point out that a large amount of textile imports came from developed countries in no way covered by the MFA. The House had to address its mind to that problem and not only to problems relating to the MFA.

The subject was raised by Mr Michael Latham (Rutland and Melton, C) who said: Substantial concern exists in the knitwear and textile industries, who are major employers of labour, that ministers are taking an ambivalent attitude to extension of the MFA.

Will he give an assurance he understands the disastrous effect *there would be on employment if* this was not effectively renewed as soon as possible?

Mr Channon: I take note of that. *The Government is consulting* all those concerned and in due course will make a statement. The MFA does not run out until the end of next year so there is some time.

Mr Max Madden (Bradford West, Labour): There will be massive job losses if the MFA is abandoned or radically liberalized. In West *Yorkshire one in three manufactur*ing jobs are in textiles and clothing and as the so-called "Budget for Jobs" has done nothing for areas like mine, will be give a firm, clear unequivocal assurance that the Government is committed to renewal of the MFA and a tough MFA at that?

Mr Channon: I looked recently at the figures for the Yorkshire wool industry and was glad to see the wool textile sector increased exports by 23 per cent last year. All of us want to see a flourishing clothing *and textile industry.*

The figures on unemployment are by *no means commonly* agreed. This is a matter of great importance and the Government is entitled to think about it carefully.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C): The textile, clothing and knitwear industries in *this country* are the fourth largest employer. Unanimously the *representatives of* these industries demand a renewal of the MFA.

Unless the Government does renew the MFA, not *only in 1986* but subsequently, unemployment will increase *and* an important manufacturing base will be undermined.

Mr Channon: I certainly note his views. I understand the feeling expressed by him and other MPs. They will naturally be taken into account.

Mr Winterton: Pathetic reply.

Mr Barry Sheerman (Huddersfield, Lab): Ministers must act quickly on the MFA to restore confidence so investment can take place.

Mr Channon: The Government will have to act with reasonable speed, but the MFA does not expire until the end of next year. On a matter of great importance it is reasonable for the Government to consult some of the interested parties – I am seeing *some* tomorrow – and it is unreasonable to be expected to announce a decision today.

Mr Martin Brandon-Bravo (Nottingham South, C): Much of the employment in the textile industry is female intensive in areas of high *male unemployment. In that special* situation, does he not think that *some agreement is essential?*

Mr Channon: I take his comment extremely seriously. He makes an important point. The textile and clothing industry is important. Exports rose by 15 per cent last year to almost £2,500 million. The Government takes extremely seriously all these points and they *will be taken into account.*

The second reading of the Water (Fluoridation) Bill, which makes it lawful for local authorities to add fluoride to the public water supply to reduce dental decay, was completed in the House Lords early Wednesday morning.

Parliament today

Commons: (2.30): Local Government Bill, completion of remaining stages.

Lords (3): Child Abduction and *Custody Bill and Representation of* the People Bill. Committee. Debate *on overseas aid.*

What Tebbit is to tell Japanese

TRADE

The Government acted vigorously where, for example, Japanese malpractices could be proved on such things as dumping. Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said during Commons question time exchanges. In recent months vigorous anti-dumping measures had been taken by the European Community.

Mr John Townend (Bridlington, C) had asked what was the United Kingdom trade deficit for 1984 with Japan and what action the Government intended to take to rectify this position.

Mr Tebbit: The visible trade deficit with Japan in 1984 was £2,870 million. I will take the opportunity of my forthcoming visit to Japan to encourage measures to open Japanese markets to the UK exports.

Mr Townend: Is the Japanese market now open to British goods and services to the same extent that the British market is open to theirs?

We want action. If we do not get these markets open soon, the pressure for retaliation will become irresistible in Great Britain.

Mr Tebbit: He rightly points to a very deep-seated problem which is not one which we alone experience. I shall draw to the attention of my Japanese hosts the fact that they have a great interest in the open trading system.

If that system is seen not to work due to protectionist measures in any country, the whole system will come *under threat.*

Mr Roger Sims (Chislehurst, C): While Japan is a specialized and complex market there are a number of well-established British trading companies in Tokyo who are willing *and able to evaluate the suitability of* products for the Japanese market *and help in marketing there.*

Mr Tebbit: Yes. There are British companies succeeding in the Japanese market.

Vosper sale

British Shipbuilders hoped to issue a sale document for Vosper Thornycorft by the summer. Mr *Norman Tebbit,* Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, stated *during questions in the Commons.* He had asked British Shipbuilders to sell all its warshipbuilding interests, including Vosper Thornycroft, by March 31 1986.

Vosper Shiprepair was also on the market, he added.

Honda talks

The Department of Trade and *Industry held discussions with the* Japanese car manufacturers Honda *from time to time, but these were* commercially confidential, Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State for Industry, said in the Commons when asked about talks held with Honda concerning its Swindon site.

He also said that any question of a takeover by Honda of Austin Rover was hypothetical.

Tory backbenchers favour total abolition

WAGES COUNCILS

Conservative backbenchers argued *strongly in favour of total abolition* of wages councils as the Commons *sat through the night debating a* series of topics under the Consolidated Fund Bill procedure. The councils were described by Mr Michael Forsyth (Stirling, C) as relics of the Edwardian era.

Nine Conservative backbenchers took part in the three-hour debate on the future of wages councils of whom eight expressed a clear preference for outright abolition.

Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for Employment, replying, said the Government would not make up its mind until it had considered the response to its consultation paper. The alternative to abolition was radical reform of the councils.

From the Opposition side there were only two speakers, Mr John Evans, a Labour spokesman on employment, and back-bencher Mr Edward Loyden (Liverpool, Garston).

Mr Christopher Chope (Southampton, Itchen, C) who initiated the debate, said wages councils had outlived their usefulness. They were now clearly an impediment to jobs.

Mr Evans said the main excuse for removing wage council protection for young people was that they would then be pricing themselves into a job. But young people's earnings expressed as a *percentage* of the adult rate had fallen by more *than a fifth since the Government* took office and at the same time unemployment among young people had rocketed. The proposition about pricing youngsters back into a job was eyewash.

Mrs Angela Rumbold (Mitcham and Morden, C) said wages councils linked with some the provisions of the Employment Protection Act actually militated against women being offered jobs. The arguements of the early 1900s for startig wages councils simply did not apply today.

Mr Loyden said the proposals on wages councils were a blatant attempt by the Government to *weaken the power of working* people.

Mr Michael Brown (Brigg and Cleethorpes, C) said the abolition of *wages councils would create more* jobs. The minister's green paper acknowledged that radical reform would not lead to as many jobs being created as total abolition.

Government keeps out of Fleet Street

THE PRESS

In a debate, during Tuesday's all-night-sitting, on the future of the newspaper industry much of which focused on the stoppage at *The Sun,* Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for Employment, said he did not believe the Government should step in and make special industrial relations arrangements for the printing industry.

It was sad but true that industrial relations in the printing industry, and Fleet Street in particular, could be among the worst of any sector. When they went well they were among the best.

The Government recognized that on occasions resistance to bully boy *tactics within the industry had not* been quite as effective as it might *have been.*

Fleet Street chapels of the unions (he observed) are pretty autonomous groups of people no more tied to socialism than I am.

Mr Peter Bruinvels (Leicester East, C), who initiated the debate, said he urged *The Sun* to sue now for the 23 *million* copies it had lost. He understood it was worth £500,000 in damages.

The whole country knew that Fleet Street was overpaid, overmanned, and over-protected. This state of affairs could not be allowed to continue.

Mr Martin O'Neill (Clackmannan, Lab) said if they were going to look at the future of the newspaper industry they needed to look at far more than industrial relations.

Waterloo criticized

RAILWAYS

The travelling public had to be weaned *from* the roads to the railways, Lord Somers (Ind) said *during* a debate in the House of Lords on the need to rejuvenate the rail system and make it more efficient.

This could only be done by making the public realize that not only was the railway system more comfortable and safer, with less strain, but that they were being looked after.

Waterloo (he went on) is the most *awful station I have ever come* across. It has not even got a waiting *room or somewhere one can sit* while waiting for a train. If one wants to buy a packet of cigarettes there are only two tiny kiosks and they never have the type of cigarettes one wants. (Laughter)

There were no porters, he added, only luggage trolleys which were a long way off.

Lord Taylor of Gryfe (SDP) said British Rail had instituted a "customer first" programme and more than half of its entire staff had been to training centres where the emphasis was on the importance of good customer relations. BR had accepted the challenge that they must win back customers.

Lord Ferrier (C) said the manage*ment staff* of the railways were shackled by the restrictions imposed upon them by the trade unions. There was missing a sense of mission, of service to the people.

He wished another MacGregor could be found to do for the railway industry what he had done for the steel industry and now for coal.

Lord Davies of Leek (Lab) said the railway was an essential part of defence system and should receive part of its costs from the Ministry of Defence. Any government which cut back on *the system would be* damaging the safety of the country.

Royal Assent

The following Acts received *Royal Assent: Consolidated* Fund (No 2); Mineral Workings; Cinemas; Shipbuilding; Surrey; Valerie Mary Hill and Alan Monk (Marriage Enabling). The latter Act allows Mr Monk of Ashford, Kent, to marry his mother-in-law.

New peeress

Lady Warnock, formerly Dame Mary Warnock, senior research fellow of St Hugh's College, Oxford University, was introduced in the House of Lords. Her sponsors were *the Earl of Longford (Lab) and Lady* Platt of Writtle (C).

Opticians accused of intimidation

Opticians were using intimidation and other methods to prevent patients taking their prescriptions elsewhere to be made up Lord Rugby (Ind) said during question time in the House of Lords. He asked what *steps the Government had taken to* inform the public that optical prescriptions could now be taken to any dispenser.

Lady Trumpington, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said: The ending of the opticians' monopoly on December 10 attracted considerable Press comment in which attention was drawn to the patient's right to take the prescription to other dispensers.

Lord Rugby: Is she or her *department* aware of actions by opticians to prevent people from taking away their prescriptions by various actions such as intimidation, tearing up prescriptions and giving a *prescription which is knowingly* wrong?

If there is any foundation to any of these things then they are a *matter of great seriousness.*

Lady Trumpington: From April 1 opticians' terms of service will require them to hand over to the patient the prescription in all cases where glasses are prescribed.

Any optician who fails to do so will be in breach of his terms

Lord Orr-Ewing (C): Has she seen the article in the *Pharmacists' Journal* which recommends that pharmacists should not be encouraged, or should be positively discouraged from marketing and dispensing spectacles? Is that not a restraint of trade and totally opposed to the freedom the Government has sought to give to the choice to buy spectacles?

Lady Trumpington: I have not seen the article.

UK 'Star Wars' research

Answering questions in the House of Lords on the United States' Strategic Defence Initiative, Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, said the Prime Minister had expressed the hope that British scientists would *share in the research.* The Government was therefore considering what contribution it would be best placed to make.

The Government was considering the research phase of the programme

British Council

Cash cuts 'harm' foreign relations

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Repeated cuts in government grant for the British Council, totalling 22 per cent in real terms since 1979, are eating away at the nation's future relations with other countries, Sir John Burgh, the council's director general, told MPs yesterday.

"I strongly believe the cumulative effect of these cuts has been very damaging. This policy needs to stop," he said.

He told the Commons foreign affairs select committee that it was now "extremely difficult" to plan the council's operations because of the uncertainty created by Whitehall over its financing.

The council, which promotes Britain through cultural, educational and technical work and is the nation's image-maker abroad, has had its 1985/6 budget cut by £1.1 million to £83.9 million on the orders of Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary, and faces finding extra savings because of inflation at home and overseas.

The latest cuts have forced the council to postpone the opening of a new office in Shanghai which would have supported Britain's trade drive in China. An office in Oporto, Portugal, and an English teaching institute in Venezuela will close, and a post will go in Qatar.

Sir John told MPs that the savings often damaged the council's long-term objectives because some had to be found at short notice. All he was pleading for was a reduction in the cumulative cut in government grant from 22 per cent to 15 per cent; an extra £2 million a year for three years.

Doubts about whether the Foreign Office would compensate the council for high rates of inflation overseas created uncertainty that had a very damaging effect.

Sir John, who told MPs last July that his organization was creaking because of financial pressure, added: "I would not wish the committee to think that the council does nothing but whinge about its misfortues. We have tried to help ourselves; I would like to stress this."

The council had increased revenue, especially from English teaching, and raised £700,000 during the past three years from industrial sponsorship. An educational counselling scheme involving 71 British universities and polytechnics would bring in another £350,000, he said.

The council had also increase efficiency and effectiveness by introducing a new financial system and methods for reviewing its activities.

Boost to advice for small businesses

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

A boost for advisory services for small businesses is part of a big reorganization in assistance schemes for industry and commerce announced yesterday by David Trippier, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Trade and Industry *with responsibility for small* businesses.

Spending on the specialist advisory services will be £28 million in 1985-86, an increase in real terms of 8 per cent over the amount spent in the present financial year. It is part of a switch away from spending on grant-aided schemes; the overall trade and industry department budget for all assistance schemes remains mainly the same.

Rules are being redrawn on advisory services for manufacturing and design to benefit smaller companies. Until now businesses with between 60 and 1,000 employees have been eligible for help but the criterion now changes to companies with between one and 500 employees.

The schemes are being grouped into four main sectors: advisory services, innovation, investment and exports.

Inquiries can be made from next week to a London central *inquiry point or ten regional* centres for specialist advice.

Cancer test explanation challenged

Claims by a health authority that it could not trace a woman *about a positive cervical smear* test before she died of cancer were yesterday challenged by her best friend.

Mrs Christine Finn, of Argyle Street, Oxford, said that her friend, Mrs Phillipa Kingston, aged 32, who died last May, did *not move house until 18* months after the positive smear test. She had checked that with her husband Mr Kingston.

"Anyway, her GP knew she had moved house. She had had the same GP since she moved to Oxford at the age of 18 until she found out she had cancer. It was only then that she changed GPs", she said.

Mrs Finn, aged 35, made her comments after Dr Christopher Paine, general manager of Oxfordshire district Health Authority, said efforts were made to get in touch with Mrs Kingston about her positive test *in 1979, but that she was no* longer living at the same address.

The results of the smear test, taken after the birth of her daughter, were never passed on to her.

Surgeon is bailed on 19 fraud and theft charges

A senior consultant surgeon was remanded on bail yesterday by Brigend magistrates charged with eighteen offences of fraud and one of theft involving a total of more than £8,000.

Hugh Thomas, a £30,000 consultant at the Prince Charles Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan, faces ten charges of falsely claiming expenses from Mid Glamorgan Health Authority, totalling £4,600.

In addition, he is charged with obtaining £1,600 by claiming payment for 48 vasectomy operations and three charges of obtaining more than £1,350 by deception from patients by falsely claiming that they could not be admitted to hospital for National Health Service treatment for a considerable length of time.

Mr Thomas, aged 49, of Tallyllym, Brecon, Powys, also faces three charges of attempting to obtain money by deception from three women by telling them that they could not be admitted as NHS patients for immediately necessary treatment, one of obtaining £180 from a Mr Winston Bennet by claiming payment for an in-patient at the hospital, and one of stealing more than £440 from the health authority.

No plea was taken and Mr Thomas was remanded on unconditional bail for eight weeks until May 22nd.

Mother ordered to appear

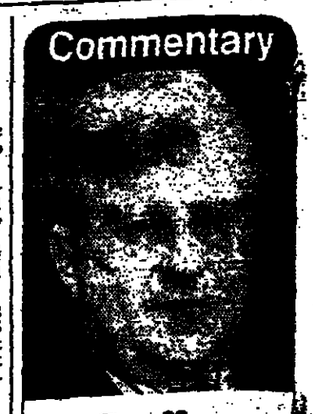
A young mother who went missing with her two sons after joining a mysterious religious sect was ordered to come out of hiding by a High Court judge yesterday.

Helen Wilson, aged 23, went missing last November with her sons, Ben, aged three, and Leon, aged 22 months, after being initiated into the Divine Light Mission.

Her husband Carl, aged 38, of Leeds, has spent four months searching for them.

He resigned as a director of a car importing company to *devote himself to the search,* and last week was given hope when the mother and children were traced to Bristol and a judge ordered the High Court tipstaff to bring them to London for a custody hearing. But the mother went missing again.

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Both the Irish and British *Governments* are evidently determined to play down the *latest round of speculation* about a possible political settlement in Northern Ireland. But what really is the state of play?

After the fiasco of the FitzGerald-Thatcher summit meeting in London last November there has been a deliberate effort on both sides, conducted largely at official level but with ministerial backing and participation, to restore the process of dialogue. The aim is to find some means of accommodating the separate nationalist and Unionist traditions while leaving Northern Ireland within the United Kingdom.

No public announcement wil be made before the Northern Irish local elections in May, but it is clear that the discussions are proceeding *along three distinct lines.* Most progress has been made so far on the idea of a new, formalized structure of consultation *between ministers or officials of* the Irish and British Governments on the *affairs of* Northern Ireland.

Beneath the *one* umbrella there would be provision for discussion of security, *judicial* matters, the economy, industry and tourism. The faces round the table would vary according to the subject under discussion. Sometimes they would be ministers, sometimes officials.

The proceedings would have to be purely consultative in form. There could not be joint sovereignty, which would involve a change in the constitutional status of the province, nor joint authority, which has been explicity ruled out by Mrs Thatcher. *But it would clearly* be in the interest of the Irish *Republic to extend its influence* on the basis of consultation to *something approaching joint* authority.

It would equally obviously be in the interest of the British Government to allay the fears of the Protestants that this was happening. So it would seem to be a matter of some sensitivity whether there was a joint secretariat and a special office assigned for this purpose in Belfast.

The second part of the *strategy is to try to secure the* return of the SDLP to the Assembly, either the present one or a reconstructed body. Mr Chris Patten, the junior minister at the Northern Ireland Office who has been given this task, does not seem to have got beyond sounding out the different parties on their terms. But there is talk of local government-style committees, with the SDLP having some of the chairmanships and the chairman collectively forming a *quasi-executive.*

The third element of the strategy would be to establish a parliamentary tier, either on a bilateral basis with representation from the Dail and Westminster alone, or with representation from the assembly as well.

It would suit the republic best to have a tripartite arrangement, which would encourage direct co-operation between *Dublin and Belfast.* But for that very reason there would be resistance to anything beyond an Anglo-Irish parliamentary tier from Ulster Unionists and from sections of the Conservative Party.

As the dialogue has not been completed, a number of specific questions remain to be decided. Above all, it is still not known whether Mrs Thatcher will be prepared to accept such a package. But both British and Irish ministers and their officials are seriously engaged with every intention of taking a *public initiative in the early* summer.

What are the chances? There is always the danger in Northern Ireland that anything that is done to reassure one community will outrage the other. In Unionist circles at the moment there is unease rather than alarm.

There is a limit, though, to how much of the package the Unionists could block. They could prevent the revival of the Assembly, which would depend on agreement between the parties. They could remove whatever chance there might be of the parliamentary tier being tripartite.

But they could not stop the British and Irish Parliaments setting up some kind of joint body, or the British and Irish Governments establishing a more formal consultative system in Northern Ireland. We are not back in the days of 1974. So the critical questions are whether Mrs Thatcher will be prepared to go ahead, and whether Dr FitzGerald will be satisfied with the limited package that is likely to be available.

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Europe air fares '40% cheaper if cartels are broken up'

By Colin Hughes

European air fares could be reduced by up to two-fifths if the Government agreed to break scheduled route cartels and open up competition to cheaper charter carriers, according to a report published today by the right-wing research body, the Adam Smith Institute.

Dr Sean Barratt, a transport economist at Trinity College, Dublin, says: "European regulation means that it is now 2.6 times as expensive to fly in Europe as it is for the equivalent distance in the United States."

He cites figures showing that, in the four years after deregulation in the United States in 1978, the US domestic market grew by 11.2 per cent, and by 1983 another 14 new airline companies had appeared.

European aviation, he argues, needs the same stimulus. "There are too few planes, flying to too few destinations, at too high cost. A dose of competition is long overdue."

If the EEC continues to maintain a protectionist aviation regime, then Britain should refuse agreement on other issues, such as agriculture, he says.

Dr Barratt's examination of costs and productivity shows that staff productivity is 50 per higher in the US, and that to achieve the same level, the 18 main European operators would need to cut ground staff by 100,000.

Charter airlines in Europe have a productivity record more than five times better than scheduled airlines, he says. The entire European charter sector, with a staff less than half that of Lufthansa, produces four times that airline's output. Dr Barratt advocates sweeping away price restrictions on charter airlines so that they can compete freely to undercut the fixed price regimes agreed between larger operators. Failing that, more liberal bilateral agreeents, such as that recently reached between the Netherlands and Britain, should be arranged.

Britain should have a completely "open skies" policy on domestic routes and international licences on monopoly routes should be redistributed by transfer or auction

As retail costs can make up as much as 20 per cent of the price of the average airline ticket, Dr Barratt says that sellinf should be decontrolled to allow a huge expansion of outlets.

Sky High: Airline Prices and European Regulations. (Adam Smith Institute, PO Box 316, London SW1P 3DJ. £8).

COMPARISON OF SCHEDULED AND DISCOUNT FARES IN EUROPE, SUMMER 1984

Route	Scheduled one-way fare (£)	Discount return fare (£)
London-Europe		
Athens	213	89
Alicante	183	69
Faro	213	65
Rome	215	79
Tenerife	260	79
Vienna	180	125
Zurich	131	80
London-Asia/Australasia		
Tokyo	828	509
Bangkok	313	295
Hong Kong	310	405
Manila	370	360
Sydney	530	585
London-S America		
Rio de Janeiro	748	460
Buenos Aires	828	515
Santiago	918	575
London-Africa/Middle East		
Nairobi	526	310
Dubai	414	440
Johannesburg	548	440

Figures taken from World Airlines ABC, *Discount Traveller* and *Business Traveller*. Discount fares are those made available to "bucket shops" because scheduled airlines have failed to sell them.

COMPARISON OF EUROPEAN WITH US AIRFARES (Journeys of similar distance)

Category miles	Route	Miles	Fare in local currency	Fare a mile (US cents) Europe	US
Under 250	Amsterdam-London	230	358 (guilder)	53	
	London-Paris	209	68 (£)	47	
	NY–Washington	203	35.19 ($)		17
	NY–Boston	191	35.19 ($)		18
250-500	Dublin-London	280	95 (EIR)	39	
	NY–Buffalo	292	95.19 ($)		12
	LA–San Francisco	340	27.78 ($)		8
500-600	Frankfurt-Rome	598	634 (DM)	41	
	Denver-Phoenix	590	131.48 ($)		22
600-800	London-Madrid	765	181 (£)	30	
	San Francisco-Seattle	679	91.67 ($)		14
800-900	Brussels-Madrid	818	12890 (BFR)	30	
	Denver-Houston	876	125 ($)		14
900-1,000	Stockholm-London	908	2865 (Krona)	38	
	L.A.–Seattle	957	162.04 ($)		17
1,000-1,500	Stockholm-Rome	1266	4035 (Krona)	41	
	Houston-Salt Lake City	1225	284.26 ($)		23
1,500-2,000	Madrid-Stockholm	1612	68700 (Pesetas)	29	
	Houston-San Francisco	1841	131.42 ($)		8

Fares quoted are one-way, figures from World Airlines ABC, April 1984, at exchange rates for that month. Carriers covered are all 18 European nationals and People Express, Pacific Southwest, United, Pam Am, South West, Air Cal and Western in US.



Joyous reception: Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands, after receiving a statuette of a she-wolf, the symbol of Rome, from the city's mayor.

Baghdad blasted as Iran claims missile attack

Baghdad (Reuter) – The sixth big explosion in two weeks rocked Baghdad yesterday and Iran said it had fired a missile at the Iraqi capital.

Witnesses *meanwhile said* they had counted 76 bodies laid out in front of a four-storey apartment building wrecked by the last explosion two days ago.

Residents said yesterday's explosion was in a densely populated area of the city and staff of a local hospital said they had been put on alert. Witnesses reported a huge column of smoke covering a wide area close to the city centre and said ambulances and police cars were going to the scene.

Iran said the missile attack was in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on Tehran and other Iranian cities in the past two days in which at least 12 people were killed.

Iraq said earlier that its planes had raided Tehran yesterday and the cities of Qazvin and Kashan in northern and central Iran and the border towns of Sar-e-Pol-e-Zahab and Gilan-e-Gharb.

A *military* spokesman said all the planes returned to base and that attacks on Iran would continue while Iranian rulers "insisted on continuing their aggression against Iraq...."

A spokesman said Iraqi jets also hit the city of Hamadan, in western Iran, soon after the Baghdad explosion.

Iran resumed bombarding the southern Iraqi port of Basra. A Reuter correspondent reported from the city that what he believed was a missile had roared past his hotel overlooking the Shatt-al-Arab waterway and hit a house a few hundred yards away.

Government-controlled newspapers said for the second consecutive day that Iraq would intensify the conflict if Iran did not agree to discuss a comprehensive settlement to the 4½-year war.

● NEW YORK: Señor Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary General, condemned the use of chemical weapons in the latest escalation of the Gulf War and called for a halt to attacks on civilian targets (Zoriana Pysarinsky writes).

His statement follows a week of discussions with Mr Hossein Kazempour-Ardebili, Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran, and talks over the weekend with Mr Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi Foreign Minister. Señor Perez de Cuellar explored ways of reducing the level of fighting, with no apparent success.

The reference to chemical weapons is an implicit criticism of Iraq, as are appeals to end the attacks on unarmed merchant shipping in the Gulf and threats to civilian aviation in Iranian air space.

Professor shot dead at university

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The left wing Red Brigade terrorist movement claimed responsibility for the fatal shooting yesterday at Rome University of Professor Ezio Tarantelli, aged 43, a leading economist and adviser to the Roman Catholic trade union movement.

The killing provoked a deep feeling of shock. Italy's three trade union federations immediately called for protest demonstrations and a general strike of at least two hours. Signor Bettino Craxi, the Prime Minister, immediately summoned Signor Oscar Scalfaro, the Minister of the Interior, for a full report on the killing and went to pay his last respects to Professor Tarantelli in hospital. Proceedings at the Chamber of Deputies were interrupted briefly as a sign of respect towards the professor.

He was murdered by two terrorists in front of about 30 witnesses as he was about to drive away from the university car park. One of the terrorists believed to be aged about 30, fired a machine pistol at Professor Tarantelli then escaped with his accomplice, first on foot and then on a scooter. Red Brigade pamphlets were found near the body and the movement's responsibility for the shooting was claimed in a telephone call to a Milan radio station. The pamphlets are understood to have contained a attack on reformists, of which Professor Tarantelli was one.

Top police sacked in Spanish shake-up

From Harry Debelius
Madrid

A big shake-up of the Spanish police forces, which has led to the dismissal of seven senior officers and the disbanding of a police unit, continued yesterday with the sacking of the commander of the police legal advisory section and the closure of the police academy in Madrid.

The measures are apparently intended to restore discipline, after weeks in which police officials and police union leaders have publicly traded insults.

Last week, 300 National policemen staged a sit-down strike in Leon and demanded the resignation of their commanding officer, Captain Francisco Javier Alvarez, for what they called "his absolutely intolerable attitude towards his subordinates". The men's action coincided with pressure from police unions to make the government end the practice of filling top police posts with army officers on detachment.

The Interior Ministry responded by sacking Captain Alvarez and disbanding his unit. The National Police Chief of Staff, Lieutenant Colonel David Cervera was also dismissed, after apparently protesting about the ministry's failure to react to insults to senior officers. Other sackings followed.

Jail doctor wins damages for Kray drugs libel

Dr Brian Cooper, senior medical officer at Parkhurst prison, Isle of Wight, won "substantial" undisclosed libel damages in the High Court yesterday, over allegations that the Kray twins were suppressed by drugs while in his care.

The allegations were broadcast on TV-am in September 1983 during an interview with a former prisoner. Dr Cooper had been responsible for Reginald and Ronald Kray before the latter was transferred to Broadmoor in 1979.

Mr Richard Parkes for Dr Cooper told Mr Justice Mann that it was alleged their condition deteriorated terribly

Mr Geoffrey Robertson, for TV-am, said that they apologized unreservedly for the unfortunate and wholly unwarranted allegations.

Teenagers aid train murder inquiries

Teenagers on a youth training scheme made replicas of a raincoat and skirt for a reconstruction of the owner Janet Maddocks, the murdered social worker.

The clothes, identical to those Mrs Maddocks was wearing, were worn yesterday by a volunteer with a striking resemblance to the dead woman for a reconstruction on the 21.02 Euston to Birmingham train.

Mrs Maddocks, 35, of Kings Heath, Birmingham, was thrown from the train near Northampton after being stabbed to death and robbed a week ago.

Police hope the reconstruction will jog regular commuters' memories. The clothes were hurriedley made on a youth training scheme in Northampton.

Ombudsman reports rise in complaints

By A Staff Reporter

Complaints lodged with the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, the Ombudsman, increased slightly last year, according to the first annual report published yesterday by Mr Anthony Barrowclough, QC.

In 1984 Mr Barrowclough dealt with 837 complaints, 86 more than in 1983. About a quarter were investigated and 183 cases were examined in detail. Of these, 86 per cent were found to be wholly or partly justified.

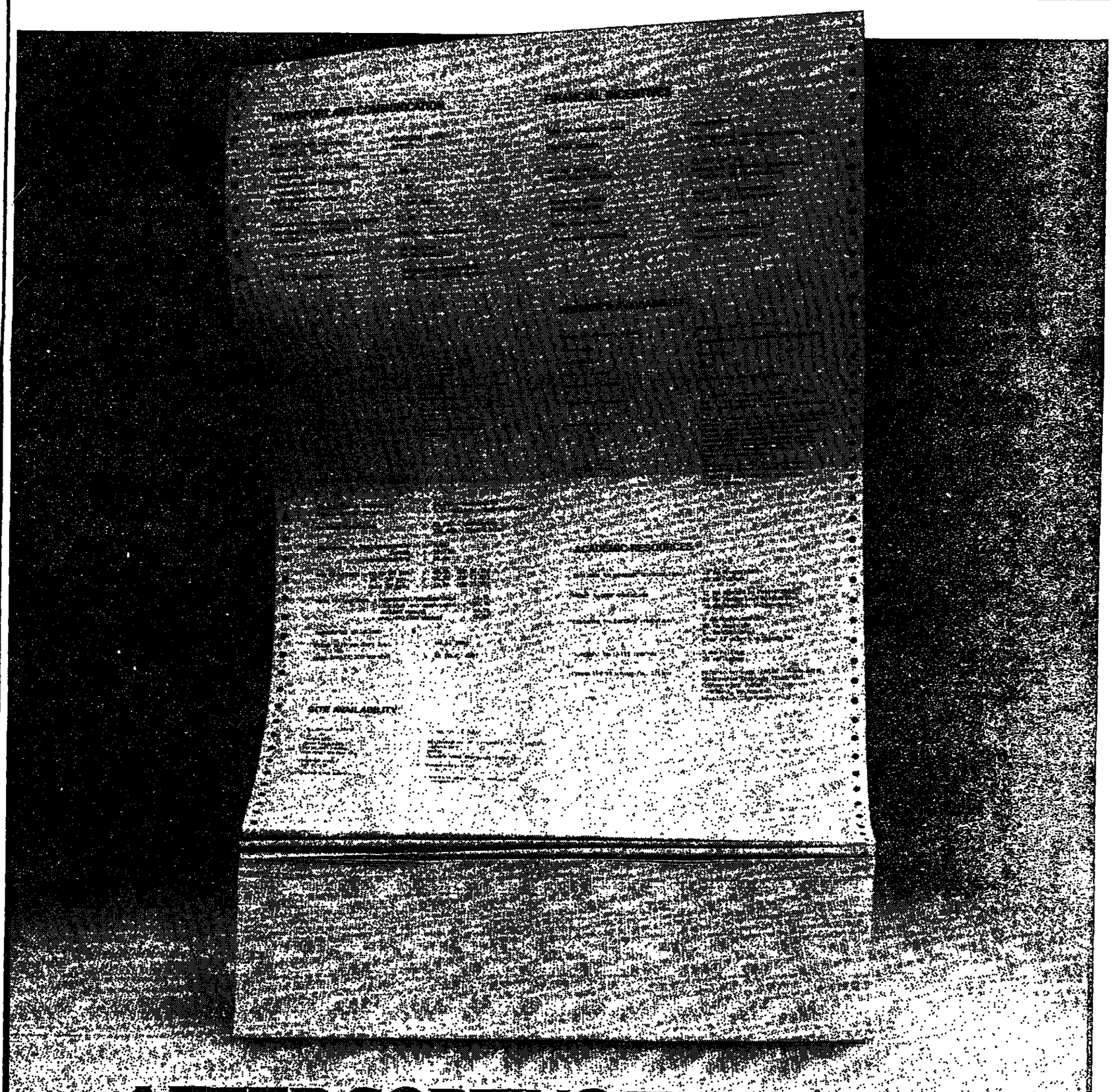
Mr Barrowclough took office in January and the report in the main covers the activities of his predecessor, Sir Cecil Clothier, who retired last year.

As in previous cases most complaints – 43 per cent – were against the Department of Health and Social Security and the Inland Revenue.

There were several complaints about the operation of the housing benefit scheme which transferred responsibility for help to supplementary benefit recipients from the DHSS to local authorities. The scheme was criticized in the report for being complicated, and complaints were found to arise largely from difficulties in *understanding it.*

Other DHSS cases included one from a striking miner complaining of the way the department had dealt with his claim to family income supplement, and from a food canning company awarded £5,790 compensation after wrong advice led to unnecessary withholding of its product from the market.

There was an increase in the number of complaints from prisoners after the release of Mr John Preece, who was convicted of murder on the evidence of the discredited Home Office scientist, Dr Alan Clift. The case was investigated by the Ombudsman, who concluded there had been a serious failure by the Home Office in reviewing his case. Twenty-one complaints were received last year compared with six in 1983. Ten of these have been accepted.



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Visit to scene opens inquiry

Judge hears police and township accounts of how 19 blacks died

From Michael Hornsby, Langa, Eastern Cape

The inquiry into the killing of 19 blacks by a police riot squad a week ago opened yesterday with a visit to the scene by Mr Justice Donald Kannemeyer, the Supreme Court judge assigned to sift the truth from radically different accounts of what happened.

Wearing a trilby and pinstripe suit, Judge Kannemeyer was protected by a large police contingent and followed by a retinue of local and foreign journalists. Township residents gathered in large numbers, and some came forward to tell their stories.

Lieutenant John Fouche, the police officer who gave the order to fire, gave his version of the incident and the relative positions of his men and of a large crowd of blacks who police said had been hurling stones and petrol bombs.

The lieutenant said he had blocked the road from the township with two armoured cars. A large crowd of blacks approached from about 500 yards away over a rise in the road.

They fanned out across open veld and were joined by others. At about 50 yards Lt Fouche stood up in his vehicle and told them to stop.

They ignored the warning, he said and when they were about 10 yards away he fired into the ground in front of them. That, too, was ignored. When the front line of marchers was seven yards away he ordered his men to fire.

A member of the Opposition Progressive Federal Party, Mr Errol Moorcroft, then pointed out what appeared to be a large bloodstain some 30 yard from where the police vehicles were parked. This is likely to be used as evidence that the crowd was not so close as the police maintain.

Mr Moorcroft also drew the judge's attention to five apparent bullet marks on the stone facing of a culvert. It would have been difficult to hit, he said if the police had fired only a single volley from their vehicles, as claimed.

Township residents claim almost uniformly that the police gave no warning, and deny that the crowd had stones and petrol bombs.

They also say that after the first burst police left their vehicles and pursued the fleeing marchers. More shots were fired, and some people were hit in the back.

In the afternoon the judge, who forms a one-man commission, opened the inquiry proper in the small magistrates' court at the nearby white town of Uitenhage. He interpreted his brief as being to "investigate all the factual circumstances" of "a confrontation between a group of people and members of the South African police".

Evidence would be restricted to "the matter of what happened on the day in question". He did not see it as part of his task to investigate the political, economic or social causes which might have led to the shooting.

The Oxford-educated judge said he wanted to produce a report quickly, but would do nothing to stifle the investigation. He would welcome evidence from "anyone who could help me with the difficult task".

The judge intends to hear police evidence first, and then that of township residents.

The rest of yesterday's proceedings was taken up largely with evidence from a local magistrate and security policemen which confirmed that a funeral due to have taken place at nearby Kwanobushle last Thursday had been banned at short notice.

Langa residents say the crowd was making its way to the funeral, which many people did not know had been cancelled.



Royal toast: The Queen raises her glass to President Eanes of Portugal at a Lisbon banquet.

Soares entry hopes run high

From Richard Wigg, Lisbon

Portugal's Prime Minister, Dr Mario Soares, expressed confidence here yesterday that terms for his country's entry into the EEC finally can be settled in Brussels today. Britain and France have encouraged him in this hope.

After hosting a lunch for the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, Dr Soares told me that a telephone conversation with President Mitterrand had satisfied him that outstanding matters concerning Portugal's entry would be resolved by the time the Community's foreign ministers meet Portuguese and Spanish representatives prior to the EEC summit opening tomorrow.

The Prime Minister also said he was in contact yesterday with Mr Andreas Papandreou, his Greek counterpart, in an effort to persuade Athens not to seek to exercise a veto on Spanish and Portuguese entry at the last minute.

"Spain has made so many concessions," Dr Soares said. "It would be a tragedy now for the Iberian countries and for the rest of Europe if this opportunity is lost."

Dr Soares conceded that Portugal would have to resign itself to being unable to enter the EEC alone if Spain's terms could not be settled in Brussels. Large, friendly crowds applauded the Queen and the Duke as they left the national palace in the tiny town of Sintra, the summer residence of the former kings of Portugal.

"Nowhere else in Europe does the Queen of England receive so warm and spontaneous a greeting as in Portugal," Dr Soares said.

The Queen had assured the Portuguese at Tuesday night's banquet given by President Eanes that in Britain's view the EEC "will not be complete without you".

The Queen warned, however, that joining the EEC means a willingness to adapt to change. "The experience for us has been valuable, corrective and positive, though by no means easy. Membership brings new challenges but also new opportunities."

Dr Ernani Lopes, Portugal's Economics Minister, was in Brussels yesterday to meet top EEC officials.

MX vote hailed as Reagan triumph

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Tuesday night's crucial 219-213 vote in the House of Representaties in favour of releasing $1.5 billion (1.24 billion) to build 21 more MX missiles is another triumph for President Reagan and his high-profile style of political lobbying.

It also represents a significant setback for the Democratic Party, which is still trying to recover from last year's shattering defeat in the presidential election. Sixty-seven Democrats broke ranks and voted for the missile, even though the entire party leadership in the House voted against it.

The narrowness of the President's victory means, however, that his request for a further $4 billion for 48 more missiles next year could be in serious trouble. It aslo means that the President can expect fierce opposition to his requests for funds for other major weapon programmes.

Indeed, some Democrats even hoped that Tuesday night's vote could still be reversed when the House holds a second vote today on the MX. (Tuesday's vote was to authorize money to build 21 more missiles; today's vote is to appropriate the money.) However, it was widely expected that the vote would be the same. When the Senate held two votes for the same purpose last week, the margin was 55-45 both times.

President Reagan, who spent much of the past three weeks lobbying for the missile, praised the House vote as "an important and unmistakable signal of American unity and resolve . . . a clear demonstration of American strength and determination affirming our commitment to maintain the modern forces necessary for effective deterrence and to do everything possible to achieve significant arms reductions".

Two Democrats contributed significantly to the President's victory – Mr Max Kampelman, head of the US negotiating team at the Geneva arms talks, and Representative Les Aspin (D, Wisconsin), chairman of the armed services committee.

Mr Kampelman, a conservative Democrat, was brought back from Geneva last weekend to give public support to President Reagan's contention that the MX was needed to strengthen America's hand at the arms talks, which began earlier this month. Mr Tip O'Neill, the House Speaker, said Mr Kampelman had "cemented the President's arguments" with half-a-dozen wavering Democrats.

Mr Aspin swayed a few more Democrats in support of the missile when he said in a speech at the end of Tuesday's debate that "it would be crazy for Congress, at this point, to take something away from our negotiators".

The missiles have a 6,675-mile range, and each will carry 10 independently targetable nuclear warheads, each equivalent to 300,000 tons of TNT.

● MOSCOW: Tass described as a "total lie" President Reagan's argument that "pursuit of the MX programme will contribute to the success of the Geneva negotiations" (AFP reports).

Tass accused President Reagan of resorting to "the tactic of the carrot and stick and even to open threats".

Eleven are hurt in Chile bomb blasts

Santiago (Reuter) – Two powerful car bombs exploded here on the eve of a day of protest called by leftist opponents of President Pinochet. Eleven people were injured. The blasts occurred outside the offices of the Government newspaper *La Nacion* and in a shopping centre.

There were also reports of explosions in Rancagua, Vina del Mar and Valparaiso.

Boy's credit card spree

Frankfurt (Reuter) – A 16-year-old West German boy travelled the world with a credit card sent to him after he claimed to be a 41-year-old doctor with five houses and a yearly income of £13,500, police said.

Soon after receiving the card the boy flew for holidays in London, Paris, Rio de Janeiro and Hamburg and stayed in top-class hotels. The cost of his spree is put at about £2,200.

Plight of Czech protester

Vienna (Reuter) – An Austrian Catholic group has protested to Czechoslovakia over the case of a man committed to psychiatric treatment in Czechoslovakia after collecting signatures opposing the siting of nuclear missiles in the country.

The group put its views in a letter to President Husak of Czechoslovakia asking him to review the case of Jan Pukalik, aged 22, who was arrested in November, 1983.

No Islamic bomb

Karachi (Reuter) – The International Atomic Energy Agency has no evidence that any Muslim country is building a so-called "Islamic bomb", a senior agency official, Signor Maurizio Zifferero said in an interview with the daily *Dawn* published here.

Grants protest

Moscow (Reuter) – Soviet police dispersed about 60 Mauritanian students attempting to occupy their country's embassy in Moscow in protest against failure to provide study group grants. The students said they had received no grants for over two years.

Tigers thrive

Delhi (AP) – Tigers have killed 22 people in three months in the forests of West Bengal, despite the use of electrified human dummies, officials said. Once on the verge of extinction, they have bounced back under Project Tiger, a protection programme launched 11 years ago.

Prolific beer

Nairobi (Reuter) – Beer-drinkers in Kenya have been assured that reports that a contraceptive drug has been added to their beer were just rumours. Kenya Breweries denied inserting the drug under government orders.

Fund for birds

Stockholm (Reuter) – The World Wildlife Fund said it had set up a special fund in collaboration with the Scandinavian airline SAS to protect Scandinavian birds of prey. The fund was started off with an SAS donation of $110,000.

Family funeral

Dunedin (Reuter) – A New Zealand housepainter, Michael Woods, worried about money problems, shot his wife, stabbed his three small sons to death and set a funeral pyre for the family before shooting himself, a coroner's court was told here.

Converts jailed

Katmandu, (AP) – Eight men have been jailed for six months on charges being converted to Christianity, to the detriment of Hinduism, and of propagating their new religion. Six others were cleared because their conversion occurred outside Nepal in India.

Botha determined to restore order

From Our Correspondent, Cape Town

As sporadic unrest continued in the Eastern Cape, President Botha yesterday addressed a specially convened joint sitting of the three Houses of Parliament and promised that "appropriate steps" would be taken to restore order in the country.

He caused a stir by appearing to usurp the prerogative of the Speaker, Mr Johan Greef, when he appealed to members not to debate the Uitenhage shootings until the judicial commission of inquiry which he has appointed under Mr Justice Kannemeyer has reported its findings.

The Speaker ruled on Tuesday that the sub judice rule did not apply to commissions and that members were free to raise the Uitenhage shootings in debate.

When debate resumed in the House of Assembly, Mrs Helen Suzman, Opposition spokesman on civil liberties, immediately began dealing with the shootings amid interjections from Government benches, but was allowed to continue by the speaker.

In his address to the joint Houses, President Botha said that unrest was being stirred up by certain elements "at the behest of foreign powers to achieve their diabolical ends."

The editor of *The Cape Times*, Mr Anthony Heard, the political correspondent of the paper, Mr Anthony Johnson, and the proprietors, South African Associated Newspapers, were served with a summons to appear in court to face a charge under the Internal Security Act.

The summons alleges that the paper published a statement by a banned person whose utterances may not be published without the permission of the Minister of Law and Order.

● LONDON: Mrs Thatcher was called on yesterday to intervene personally in the South African crisis as she did over Rhodesia six years ago (Henry Stanhope writes).

Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, president of the Anti-Apartheid Movement (AAM) urged her to invite Mr Oliver Tambo of the African National Congress (ANC) for immediate talks in Britain with a view to setting up a round-table conference with the Government in Pretoria.

● ROME: The Pope called for an end to the "useless suffering" caused by racial unrest in South Africa.

Warning to Budapest on prices

From Roger Boyes, Budapest

A senior Hungarian Politburo member yesterday echoed anxious calls in Warsaw by urging party leaders to listen to angry protests about price increases.

Mr Sandor Gaspar, aged 67, president of the Hungarian Trade Union Council, acknowledged the bitterness that had followed January's sharp price rises in Hungary. "Never again should a price be increased without proper preparation," he told some 1,000 delegates to the Hungarian Communist Party congress.

The speech was delivered on the day that Polish papers published conciliatory comments by the main Polish propaganda chief, Mr Jan Glowczyk. He said the party leadership should listen attentively to public protests about price rises: "without constructively listening to criticism, it is impossible to win over the working class for economic reform".

Although Hungary has a well-developed reform – with full shops as evidence – while Poland is struggling in the early stages, both face the problem of convincing citizens that regular and often hefty increases in the prices of food, heating and services are a necessary part of the policy.

In Poland the message was driven home by another work stoppage, by the largely female workforce at the Rosa Luxembourg light-bulb factory increased four weeks ago.

The level of public discontent remains relatively restrained in Hungary. There have been many unofficial accounts of stormy meetings in factories, but no indication of major industrial action.

Australia says no to Star Wars research

Sydney (Reuter) – Australia will not join in America's research programme for the "Star Wars" anit-missile defence system, its Defence Ministry said yesterday.

The statemement came a day after the US Defence Secretary, Mr Caspar Weinberger, announced that he is inviting 17 nations – America's Nato allies, plus Israel, Japan and Australia – to take part in research for the project.

Mr Bob Hawke, Australia's Labour Prime Minister, told his Parliament yesterday that he had not received Mr Weinberger's invitation. But the Defence Ministry said Australia had already made it clear that it would not become involved in research for the project, offically known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

Australia has strong links with the United States under the Anzus defence alliance. The two countries share communicatons bases in Australia.

● PARIS: Mr Weinberger arrived in Paris yesterday for a three-day visit, during which he will try to persuade the sceptical French to support President Reagan's $26 billion "Star Wars" scheme. Of all the Nato allies, France has expressed the most serious reservations about the plan. (Our Correspondent writes).

The French government said yesterday it had no comment on Mr Weinberger's invitation, to which he wants formal replies within 60 days. In recent months, however, President Mitterrand and his Defence Minister, M Charles Hernu, have three chief worries about the idea.

First, by developing such a system the United States would force the Soviet Union to begin a similar programme of its own – which would have terrible consequences for the French nuclear *force de frappe*. In an interview last December, M Hernu said: "The nuclear deterrent remains for France and its vital interests, as well as for Europe, the only protection. If we were to find ourselves in another system other than nuclear deterrence, what would become of France and of Europe?"

Second, the French fear that, although the system cannot become operational for at least 20 years, it could create a false sense of security among the public, reducing pressure for nuclear disarmament.

Finally, the French fear that SDI poses a technological challenge to Europe. They have been sceptical about American offers to share in its development.

● LUXEMBOURG: Nato defence ministers in the nuclear planning group, which does not include France, voted unanimously yesterday to support the research programme. Mr Weinberger had told them that that scheme would include defence against medium-range missiles directed against West Europe.

● LONDON: A grouping of political and military figures has been formed to persuade West European governments and industry to become involved in "Star Wars" research (Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent writes).

The group, called the European High Frontier Advisory Council, includes representatives from Britain, West Germany, Holland, Belgium, France and Italy. Its British representative, Air Vice-Marshal Stewart Menaul, said yesterday that within the foreseeable future big industries in Britain and on the Continent might be offered contracts that would provide jobs and keep them in the technological forefront.

Oil broker guilty of Salem fraud

From A Correspondent, Houston

Oil broker Frederick Soudan of Houston was found guilty here of involvement in a swindle that defrauded companies and a government of $56 million (about £47 million).

A jury in Houston convicted him on 17 charges and acquitted him on five. They had deliberated for about nine hours after hearing evidence for 11 weeks.

Soudan, 41, is the first of four principals in the so-called Salem affair to have been tried and convicted since the swindle began to unfolf more than five years ago.

The jury found that Soudan used fraud to sell 1.4 million barrels of stolen oil to the South African Government and that he had his supertanker, the Salem, scuttled to cover up the theft. The 219,000-tonne vessel sank off the Senegal coast.

Soudan's lawyers said they would appeal against the conviction after he is sentenced on April 22. Soudan faces up to 86 years in prison and fines totalling $88,000 for fraud, conspiracy, tax evasion and perjury.

The prosecutors asked the judge to freeze $100,000 of Soudan's money in a Bahamas bank to help pay the trial costs.

The shell petroleum company, which lost $15 million in the Salem affair, already had frozen about $200,000 of Soudan's funds in a Swiss bank.

Also convicted was Soudan's cousin and brother-in-law, Abdul Wahab al Ghazou, aged 48, a Damascus businessman, who was accused of helping Soudan launder his profits.

Witnesses testified that Soudan and men from Greece and Holland stole an oil cargo from Pontoil of Italy and sold it for $25 million to South Africa. While the oil was on board the Salem, Pontoil resold it to Shell for $56 million.

The cargo was secretly diverted to South Africa, witnesses said.

Neves's stand-in rallies politicians behind him

From Patrick Knight, São Paulo

With the realization that it will take at least three months, and probably considerably longer, for President-elect Tancredo Neves to be fit enough to govern after three operations, the political situation in Brazil has altered completely.

The Vice-president, Senhor José Sarney, aged 55, who has so far merely been going through the motions, will now be in complete charge, at least for the time it takes for Senhor Neves, who is 75, to recover.

After much vaccilating, politicians are making it clear that they are prepared to work with the new man, and are encouraging Senhor Sarney to take command.

Leaders of all parties in Congress, went to pledge him their support as Senhor Neves was being operated on during Tuesday afternoon.

For the first time in 12 days, since Senhor Neves was first taken ill, Senhor Sarney started to give orders, to receive delegations, to sign decrees, and to start filling the large number of positions remaining vacant in the new administration.

Legitimacy has in fact passed to the Vice-President.

Responding to the need of most Brazilians for a strongly identifiable figure as leader, the image-builders have worked overtime in the past six months.

Senhor Neves, first as the choice of the broad Democratic Front multi-party alliance, and then as President-elect, as the only man capable of leading Brazil during its transition from military rule to democracy; and public opinion was persuaded that this was indeed the case.

Once the Democratic alliance had defeated the Social Democrat Party (PDS) candidate, Senhor Paulo Maluf, in the January 15 electoral college victory, the media was packed with detail of the life, habits and idiosyncracies of the elderly politician from Minas Gerais state, who has in fact achieved very little during his long political life.

It is true that he, far more than Senhor Sarney, has the credentials to gain support from the whole political spectrum. He never cooperated with the military regimes of the 21 years, while Senhor Sarney served as leader of the PDS, through which the generals ruled.

For the politicians, however, the fundamental point is that power is back with them. They are quite prepared to fall in behind Senhor Sarney to hang on to it.

Public opinion is a different matter. Many Brazilians are still convinced that some conspiracy is preventing Senhor Neves from taking power, and that Senhor Sarney is in some way mixed up with it. It may prove difficult to convince them otherwise.

A secret pact had been worked out between Senhor Neves and the soldiers to let bygones be bygones, and Senhor Sarney will certainly respect that. Unless the economy, or social order breaks down, the military has no intention of leaving the barracks and democratic rule looks set fair whoever sits in the presidential palace.

Thousands run riot in Khartoum

By Our Foreign Staff

After President Gaafar Nimeiry of Sudan left Khartoum for a visit to the United States yesterday, rioting was spreading in the Sudanese capital. Mr Nimeiry is to have a medical check-up and meet President Reagan on Monday.

According to diplomatic sources, disturbances began on Tuesday in Omdurman across the Nile from Khartoum. A few hundred students from the Islamic University marched towards the People's Assembly but were prevented from reaching it and started fires. The university was closed.

Rioting broke out on a larger scale in Khartoum yesterday, with technical school students and those from the Khartoum branch of Cairo University joined by other demonstrators, including unemployed people. Cars were overturned and windscreens and headlamps smashed.

The areas particularly affected were said to be the centre of Khartoum, the residential district of Khartoum and Saggana.

There were no initial reports of any threats to members of the British community, although two Britons found hiding inside a Land-Rover were left unharmed because demonstrators apparently told them that they had no quarrel with them.

One eye-witness said that thousands of young people, many of them girls, ran through the streets of central Khartoum, smashing the windows of buildings and every car in sight.

According to another source, some demonstrators carried placards with anti-Army slogans.

New computer launched

From Our Correspondent, Washington

American Telephone and Telegraph Co (AT&T) has celebrated its first anniversary in the commercial computer business by unveiling its second personal computer. Called the Unix PC, it is a relatively powerful desk-top machine that can accommodate up to nine users.

The Unix PC can also be hooked up to telephone systems and its video screen can display simultaneously several "windows" or data from separate operations. The basic price is $5,095 (£4,210).

European subsidies finally agreed

EEC angry at US steel curbs

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The EEC has settled its differences over steel subsidies and, having put its own house in comparative order, has made a full-scale attack "the more and more obviously protectionist measures" of the United States.

The agreement on aid to the steel industry was reached between Industry Ministers in Brussels early yesterday, when France finally agreed the Community rule that subsidy payments must end this year, in return for conditional permission for extra 1985 payments to its own industry.

France and Italy both insisted before the meeting that they must be allowed to help their industries above amounts allowed under present agreements. This will now be allowed provided the Commission is satisfied that the money is to help individual companies become viable, and not to subsidize prices.

Mr Peter Sutherland, the Commissioner responsible for the sector, yesterday described the settlement as an important milestone for the Community, representing a genuine attempt at a conciliatory approach by all member states.

The agreement reflected real concern to make the industry coherent. Without it there was a danger of France's acting alone

The Community is now on target to cut steel capacity by more than the 30 million tonnes agreed in 1982. "There can be no talk of victory or defeat. The Community succeeded through solidarity," he said.

Mr Sutherland added tha estimates of the need to shed another 15 million tonnes capacity would be discussed this year.

As for the United States, ministers agreed on a toughly-worded statement in the light of the decisin not to allow France to deliver pipes for the "all-American pipeline". The EEC feels that the pipes are not prohibited exports because they are in short supply from domestic American producers.

The statement said the US decision ran counter to the letter and spirit of the agreement, and warned that the EEC would react with the greatest vigour against unilateral actions.

The Commission has been told to prepare retaliatory measures, and the US Administration has been warned that its attitude is putting at risk a new round of the General Agreement on tariffs and Trade

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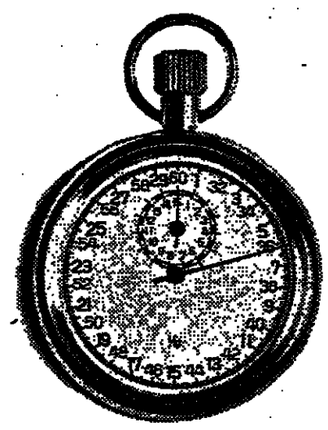
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The day death came to a CBS film team in Lebanon

Last Thursday, two Lebanese CBS television men were killed by Israeli tank fire south-east of Sidon. Was it a deliberate attack – part of a campaign against intrusive press men – or did the Israelis have good reason to open fire? Correspondents in Beirut, Jerusalem and Washington have pieced together what is known.

'Everyone ran for cover. . .'

ROBERT FISK gives a journalist's-eye view.

On the morning of March 21, two television crews – from CBS and from UPITN – set out from Beirut to cover Israeli raids in south Lebanon.

The CBS crew comprised the cameraman, Tewfiq Ghazawi, and the soundman, Bahij Metni, together with a driver, Ayad Harakeh: all three were Lebanese nationals. UPITN's crew was Sami Zunneiddin – the soundman, who doubled up as driver – and Vladimir Popov, the cameraman: both were also Lebanese.

Ayad Harakeh is still too ill to talk much. Ghazawi and Metni are dead. The most detailed evidence of what happened comes from the UPITN crew. They drove to Sidon early that morning in their light brown Mercedes.

At about ten o'clock they saw the CBS crew – all the men knew each other – at a Lebanese Army position south of Sidon. Zunneiddin and Popov met a friend in the Lebanese Civil Defence Corps who told them that Israeli tanks were firing shells into the village of Kfar Melki.

Both crews headed along a winding road to the village. Zunneiddin and Popov drove through Kfar Melki and saw the CBS crew filming a building damaged by an Israeli shell. UPITN shot tape of the same building. After a few minutes, the CBS crew climbed into their red Mercedes and drove to a narrow road on a ridge in the village on which there stood a villa and two unfinished houses. Popov and Zunneiddin again followed the CBS crew.

At this point, CBS got out of their car and took film shots of the village of Jbaa across the valley. They were to shoot 11 minutes and 58 seconds of tape before they died. Their tape shows the hill village apparently deserted: no soldiers or tanks are visible.

The UPITN crew got out of their car when they reached the CBS men on the road. Zunneiddin was getting his sound recorder from the back of the car when a tank shell (there is no fixed Israeli artillery in the area) landed. Zunneiddin was blown off his feet.

About 20 seconds later, a second tank shell landed, 10 yards behind the UPITN car. After a further 20 seconds, a third tank round landed 10 yards in front of the car. Zunneiddin said later: "They were obviously trying to get the car".

A few seconds later, the UPITN men saw the CBS crew and driver running crouched towards them.

Both crews ran to the home of the village doctor.

At this point the crews were joined by two French broadcasting reporters. A civil defence worker and another villager retrieved the abandoned cars, and the CBS men filmed the damage to the UPITN car caused by Israeli shrapnel. About 15 villagers had meanwhile gathered round the house. UPITN say that none of them was armed.

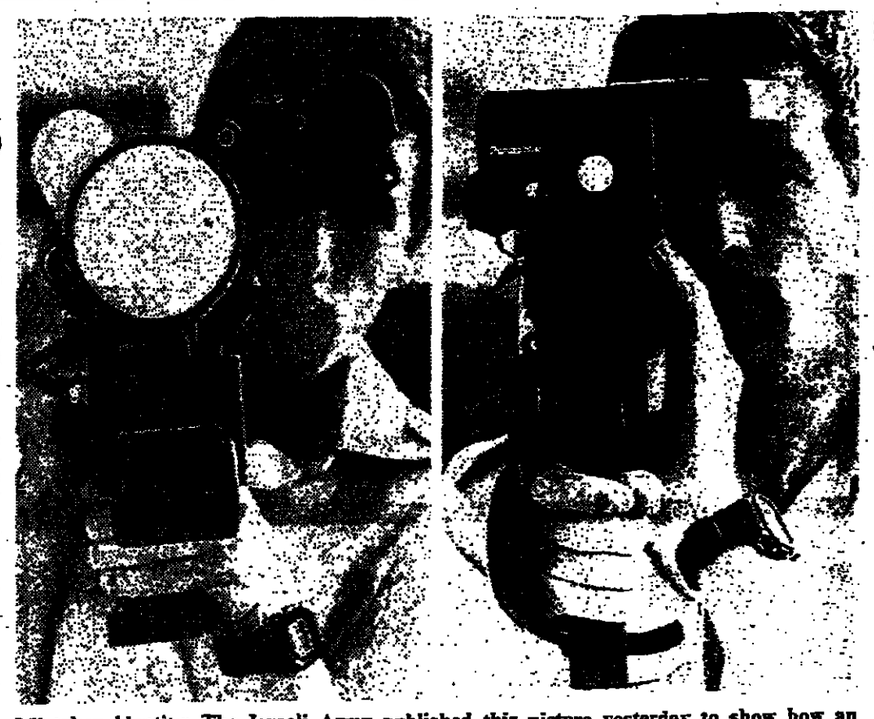
Ghazawi then placed a new cassette in his camera. A woman among the villagers called out that someone had been wounded, and the villagers started to rush off.

Ghazawi put his camera to his shoulder, stepped two paces into the road, and started filming the scene. He ran about 15 seconds of tape. Zunneiddin says that at this moment there was a big explosion as a tank shell detonated about 6ft from Ghazawi, killing him instantly.

Zunneiddin says he did not see the death of Metni or the wounding of the CBS driver: everyone ran for the cover of houses, and then two more shells landed, one of them scoring a direct hit on the empty CBS car. The UPITN crew was 100 yards away when the CBS crew died. They say there were no gunmen in the street.

Neither Zunneiddin nor Popov saw the tank that fired. On earlier tape made by the CBS crew, however, two tanks can clearly be seen, hull down on a hillside below Jbaa, firing at irregular intervals into Kfar Melki.

If these tanks were the ones that killed the CBS men, they appear on the deadmen's tape to have been at least 1000 yards from Kfar Melki. Since the neighbouring village of Aanqoum was coming under tank fire at the same time, these two tanks were apparently laying down an irregular bombardment of the three or four miles of territory in a radius around them to the west.



Mistaken identity: The Israeli Army published this picture yesterday to show how an observer at a distance could mistake a television camera (right) for the rocket-launcher



The victims: Bahij Metni (left) and Tewfiq Ghazawi, the CBS men killed by an Israeli tank shell at Kfar Melki

Crucial issue was range of tank

CHRISTOPHER WALKER reports from Jerusalem on the sequence of events

Thursday, March 21: The first official communiqué from the Israel Defence Forces concerning the raid on villages north of Israel's new frontline in Lebanon made no reference to the deaths of the two CBS crewmen, speaking only of 21 "terrorists" being killed and seven wounded. Some 45 minutes later, in response to repeated questioning from Israel-based reporters, a second communiqué was issued from Tel Aviv.

Timed at 21.15 (19.15 GMT), it said: "The IDF spokesman announces that an IDF force which was engaged in military activity in the area of the village of Melki in southern Lebanon spotted armed men who had taken firing positions. A tank which was in the area opened fire. It appears that the CBS crewmen who were reported to have been wounded were among the armed men in the village.

"The IDF does not shoot at civilians, including journalists, who are clearly identified as such. If journalists enter territory in which armed terrorists are located, they take on themselves the risk of being hurt."

Israeli government sources later said Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, had been furious when he discovered the communiqué had expressed no apology nor regret.

The apparent unwillingness of the Israelis to show any remorse added to the anger of CBS executives, who decided to scrap plans to broadcast the influential *Morning News* programme from Israel throughout the whole of Holy Week.

Mr Edward Joyce, news president of CBS, sent a telex to Mr Peres from New York, part of which said: "We urge immediate and energetic action by your Government to investigate the responsibility for this tragic and shameful occurrence, and once the facts are clear to take rigorous action to prevent the recurrence of such outrageous behaviour by the Israeli forces. . ."

Friday March 22: Israeli papers carried front page reports about French eyewitness accounts from southern Lebanon that the Israeli tank had deliberately fired on a car carrying a press tag.

At 13.15, the Government released the full text of Mr Peres's reply to CBS, in which he said: "I wish to express my deep sorrow at the tragic death of two newsmen in south Lebanon. Please convey my condolences to the families and to CBS News, and my wishes for a full and speedy recovery to the wounded.

"The tank crew involved did not deviate from the strict orders concerning the protection of innocent bystanders. It appears that the cameramen took position in the midst of a group of armed men who were engaged in hostile activity against the IDF. . ." This did not satisfy Mr Joyce.

Sunday March 24: Israeli military correspondents said an Israeli Army investigation had shown the tank had shot from 2.5 kilometres (1.5 miles) and not 500 metres (about 500 yds), as claimed by French witnesses. The officer in charge could not see the press identification on the journalists' vehicle from that distance.

The officer said he saw armed men alongside a civilian vehicle, and fired according to orders.

In Jerusalem, Mr Ernest Leiser, CBS vice-president, requested an official inquiry, but was turned down.

Monday March 25: Mr Leiser was taken on a tour of the site of the shooting and met the divisional commander of the unit whose tank fired the fatal shell.

Tuesday March 26: After a meeting between Mr Peres and Mr Leiser, CBS officially backed down from its accusation that the two men had been killed deliberately.

Israeli officials claimed it had been established "beyond doubt" that the television crew had been shot from 2.5 kilometres, and not 500 metres.

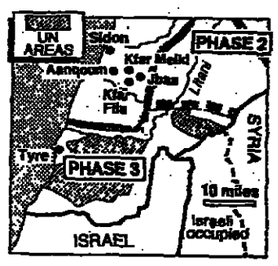
Mr Leiser rejected the suggestion that CBS might apologize to Israel, but said: ". . . we might have qualified our language somewhat. I think our reaction was proportionate to what we experienced and knew at the time."

Wednesday March 27: An Israeli official said the Government regarded the incident as closed.

Reporters in firing line as Israelis hit back

To an outsider, the killing of the two CBS journalists at Kfar Melki last week might appear a singular event, a "tragic error", to use the Israeli phrase, that could scarcely have been foreseen. To the journalists who cover southern Lebanon from Beirut, however, such deaths were inevitable. Trapped in their savage war against the guerrillas of southern Lebanon, Israeli troops have shown little compunction about shelling civilian areas, shooting wildly into streets and lanes, or storming into villages north of their occupation zone, killing the innocent as well as the guerrillas.

ROBERT FISK reveals the tensions between Israeli troops and war correspondents.



On the day that Tewfiq Ghazawi and Bahij Metni died in Kfar Melki, a middle-aged woman and a 67-year-old man were among 13 people shot dead by the Israelis in the neighbouring village of Hounine et-Tahta. Nobody has demanded an inquiry.

Many United Nations officers and other eyewitnesses think the military and ethical standards of the Israelis in southern Lebanon have fallen far below those expected of a western army and certainly below the standards the Israeli Defence Forces set for themselves.

Nor is it surprising that some television crews suspect the Israelis deliberately killed their colleagues at Kfar Melki. The Israelis have tried to prevent Western correspondents from working independently in their occupation zone. They have ordered journalists out of Southern Lebanon and soldiers have fired over the heads of reporters.

When an Israeli soldier in Sidon saw me watching troops laughing as they deliberately destroyed the wall of a man's house with a tank – there had been an ambush at the scene earlier – he fired over my head and swore at me in Arabic.

It would be wrong to suggest that the Israelis do not have a fierce enemy in southern Lebanon. They are being savaged in this war in a way they have never experienced before. This is one reason why journalists are continuing to report this historic conflict.

How Reagan reacted

President Reagan was asked at his nationally televised press conference on Thursday, March 21 by Lesley Stahl, the CBS White House correspondent, for his reaction and whether he planned to lodge any protest with the Israeli Government (Moshim Ali writes from Washington).

He replied: "Well, first of all, I'd like to know all the details of this. I'm quite sure, in combat of that kind, this was not a deliberate thing. You were, they were engaged in gunfire with armed persons who were also in civilian clothes, not uniformed, as they would be in a war.

"So, these things can happen. And it is a tragedy. And all I can say is that I think all of us have a great feeling of sorrow about the tragedy that is going on there in Lebanon and particularly in south Lebanon now as the Israelis try to withdraw. And whichever side the acts of terror, the retaliation, both of them, are leading to tragedies needless."

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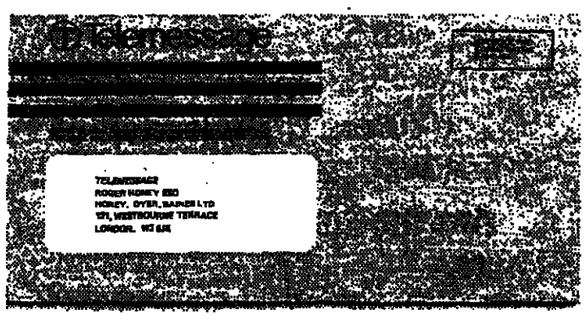
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Chinese slash spending and freeze wages in battle against inflation

Peking (AFP) – China's Prime Minister, Mr Zhao Ziyang, yesterday called for stricter control of banking, a virtual freeze in urban wage levels, and 10 to 20 per cent budget cuts to stem price rises threatening the success of the country's ambitious economic reforms.

"Lax control over credit and consumption funds in the second half – and especially the last quarter of 1984 – together with the influence of such unhealthy practices as arbitrary price rises have led to a rise in the prices of some commodities," he said. Failure to correct such problems could cause the leadership to forfeit the trust of the masses.

Mr Zhao's speech at the opening session of the National People's Congress in the Great Hall of the People dealt almost exclusively with domestic economic issues and made only passing reference to foreign affairs.

Emphasizing the accomplishments of economic reforms begun in 1978, including a 14.2 per cent growth last year in agricultural and industrial output, the Prime Minister devoted more than an hour of his 90-minute speech to a detailed focus on problems raised by the reforms.

Although he did not mention the terms "inflation" or "retrenchment," which Chinese economists reserve for discussion of capitalist economies, observers said the programme he sketched clearly showed an effort by China's leaders to bring inflationary pressure under control.

Budget appropriations for this year's administrative expenses were to be cut by 10 per cent for central and local departments while "group purchasing power" was to be cut by 20 per cent, Mr Zhao said.

Some problems were unavoidable in the execution of the reform while others had appeared "because of failure to give adequate supervision beforehand or exercise strict supervision later".

A new wage system linking each worker's income with a specific job and the overall profitability of the enterprise would be put into effect in state organizations and institutions in July. However, wages had already risen faster than increases in productivity and national income in recent years. "Further increases would be unrealistic and impossible at present and would be at variance with people's long-term interests."

Chinese leaders had earlier promised a general adjustment of wages, beginning with primary and secondary school teachers in January, but observers said they had yet to receive the promised rises. Mr Zhao said reform of the teachers' pay system was proceeding. His criticism of the banking sector follows a shuffle this month in which the presidents of China's two top banks were relieved of their posts.

Measures to reduce inflationary pressures outlined in the speech included a ban on using bank loans or production development funds for bonuses or allowances, and a progressive wage tax for enterprises that boost wages by a margin wider than that set by the state.

"Reasonable disparities should be allowed in the wages of workers and staff of state organisations, enterprises and institutions, but the gap should not be too wide," Mr Zhao said.

PROGRESS REPORT

Economic details provided by Mr Zhao included (percentages are in comparison to 1983): Farm and industrial production: Up 14.2 per cent.
State revenue: Up 12 per cent.
Grain: Up 5.1 per cent.
Cotton: Up 31.1 per cent.
Coal: Up 8 per cent.
Oil: Up 8 per cent.
Foreign capital invested: 35.7 per cent.
Wages: Up 46 per cent during the last quarter.

Prostitutes march to prevent eviction

From Our Correspondent
Paris

Yesterday's demonstration in Paris was small but more newsworthy than usual. A group of nearly 100 prostitutes who normally walk the Rue Saint-Denis gathered instead near another well-known Parisian scene, the majestic Place de la Concorde. Dressed informally and sporting masks over their faces to protect their anonymity, they planned to march right up to the Elysée Palace, where the President of the Republic and his ministers were meeting.

However, the authorities are skilful at foiling marches on the Elysée Palace, and that was the fate of the prostitutes. The march was banned. That didn't trouble the girls too much, though, for they had ample opportunity to make their case in the Parisian press and also at a meeting yesterday of three of their representatives with a member of the prime minister's staff.

The cause of all this commotion is M Alain Dumait, the mayor of the Second Arrondissement, which includes the Rue Saint-Denis. For two years he has waged a verbal battle against the street-walkers, who he says have quadrupled in his arrondissement in the past year and now number 2,000. M Dumait's talk turned into action last December and January with the boarding up of 24 of the flats where the prostitutes take their clients. Although this represents a small percentage of the estimated 350 flats they use, the threat of more closures galvanized the women into action.

M Dumait denies that he is inspired by ideas of morality, and insists that he is only trying to protect the residents of the neighbourhood. There is no law in France specifically banning prostitution, only laws against pimps and pimping.



This street is not for walking: protesting prostitutes, wearing masks to hide their identity, are foiled in their attempt to march yesterday to President Mitterrand's palace.

Austerity package for Danes on strike

From Christopher Follett
Copenhagen

Mr Poul Schluter, the Conservative Prime Minister of Denmark, yesterday unveiled emergency legislation to try to end the five-day-old strike in the private sector which affects 300,000 workers and is gradually crippling the country.

The legislation, which will have its first reading in Parliament today, is part of an eight-point austerity package designed to curb Denmark's imports and to scotch its growing balance of payments deficit, currently about £1.25 billion.

The Bill, which the centre-right minority government has negotiated with its ally on economic affairs, the small Radical Liberal party, imposes maximum pay increases of 2 per cent this year and about 1.5 per cent for 1986. Inflation is now about 5 per cent.

The legislation follows the failure last week of the trade unions and the employers' federation to agree on a new two-year collective wage agreement, sparking the country's most harsh labour conflict in 12 years.

The package – already christened the government's Easter egg to the Danish population – is estimated to receive its third and final reading by Saturday, ending the strike on Palm Sunday.

Peking gets round table again with Moscow

Peking (Reuter) – China and the Soviet Union will resume talks next month on ways of inproving political relations it was announced here yesterday. The Foreign Ministry said the sixth round of the discussions, begun in October 1982, would start start in Moscow on April 9.

Since the fifth round of talks late last year – when the Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister, Mr Qian Qichen, met the Soviet deputy foreign minister, Mr Leonid Ilyichov – there have been signs that the two sides have decided to work towards healing the rift between them, which has spanned two decades.

News that Sino-Soviet trade was to rise sharply this year was followed by agreement on a trade pact to run until 1990. Then last December Peking played host to the Soviet Vice-Premier, Mr Ivan Arkhipov, the highest ranking Soviet official to visit China since the 1960s.

This month there was a flurry of goodwill gestures when President Chernenko died and was succeeded by Mr Mikhail Grobachov. China hailed progress in Sino-Soviet ties during Mr Chernenko's brief period in office and signalled its interest in further improvement by sending the influential Vice-Premier, Mr Li Peng, to his funeral.

Mr Li, singled out by Mr Gorbachov for a warm reception in Moscow, handed a congratualtory message to the new Soviet leader from Chinese party head, Mr Hu Yaobang, although the two parties do not have official ties. Back in Peking, Mr Li told reporters his meeting with Mr Gorbachov was positive and friendly and said Sino-Soviet relaions would improve step by step.

Western diplomats in the Chinese capital sense an important shift in the attitude of Chinese leaders towards better relations with Moscow

The diplomats say there still remain the three obstacles Peking has long identified as blocking progress towards normal relations with Moscow, but they are less stridently stated these days

China usually identifies the obstacles as Soviet troop concentration along its borders, the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and Moscow's continuing support for the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea.

Mutiny boat heads for home

Kunsan, South Korea, (Reuter, AP) – A Chinese torpedo boat and its 13 surviving crew left here last night for home ahead of schedule despite strong Taiwanese protests, goverment officials said.

The 40-tonne high-speed boat was being towed by South Korean patrol vessels, which were to hand it over to Chinese ships in the Yellow Sea midway between the two countries. The handover was expected early today.

South Korean officials earlier said the boat would leave this port, 110 miles from Seoul, late yesterday instead of early today because of improved weather in the Yellow Sea. Rough seas off Kunsan had already forced a delay in the handover.

The Chinese boat was towed into Kunsan last weekend after a fight on board in which six of the 19 crew were shot dead and two wounded.

Two sailors identified as having staged the mutiny were reported earlier yesterday to have been separated from other crew members for "security reasons".

The torpedo boat drifted into the South Korean waters at the weekend it was first taken in tow by a Korean fishing boat

Although there were unoffical reports that an attempt by some crew members to defect to Taiwan might have been involved in the mutiny, the South Korean Government said on Saturday that no political motive was found.

Inquest into Zimbabwe killings

From Jan Raath
Harare

Inquests into the deaths of nine civilians in Zimbabwe's troubled province of Matabeleland, killed apparently by government troops, are being heard in Bulawayo.

It is the first time the courts have dealt with anything more than isolated atrocities against Matabeleland civilians in three years of guerrilla unrest.

The inquests deal with incidents ranging from six months ago to as recently as January.

On Tuesday Mr George Romilly, the Matabeleland provincial magistrate, postponed an inquiry into the death in January last year of a man police say confessed to being a "dissident".

The day after his arrest, he was found on his knees and hanging from a beam in his cell in Bulawayo. His body had multiple injuries.

Bullet wounds on the bodies of two other men shot in January in rural Matabeleland show powder burns, indicating that they were shot at close range. Police say they were trying to escape.

Yesterday Mr Romilly began hearing evidence in the case of a 65-year-old man shot while he herded cattle during the dusk-to-dawn curfew that lasted from February to September last year in Matabeleland South. The court heard that he was shot well after sunrise.

East Africans to revive three-way cooperation

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Ministers from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda have agreed that they should work out new systems of cooperation in transport and communications, tourism and scientific research.

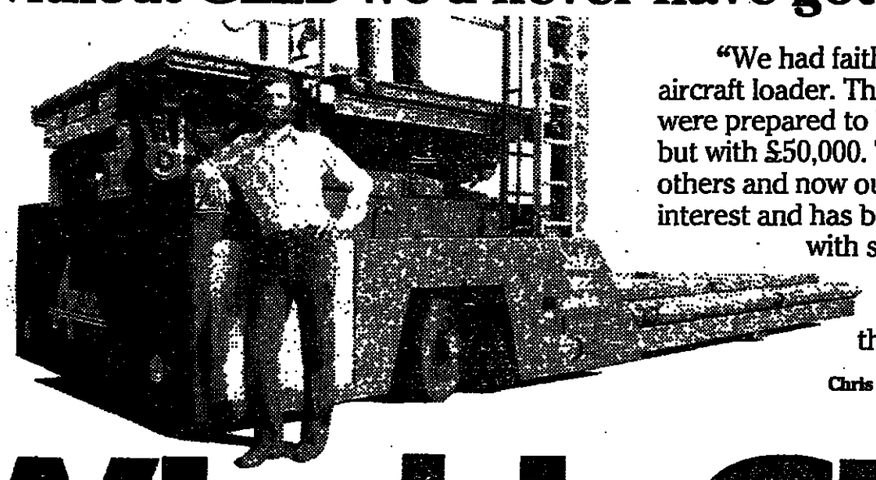
This is a first step towards a revival of the joint projects that were abandoned when the East African Community created by the three countries was dissolved in 1977 after a troubled 10-year existence.

The decision to work together was reached this week at a two-day meeting in Arusha, northern Tanzania, to consider the progress already made in sharing out the assets and liabilities of the former community. The three countries are however stopping well short of trying to revive the common market that existed up to 1977.

They are being pressed by the EEC to agree on joint development projects that could qualify for European aid.



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Tom Reed, Administrator, Lithosphere

"We're working for ourselves. It's a marvellous feeling"



"When our previous employer moved to Crawley, 100 of us couldn't move home. That meant redundancy. Then the GLEB acquired the 2.5 acre site — and saved our jobs. The new London Production Centre will provide units for London's electronics industry. That will mean 400 jobs when the space is let. Now we are working here in new companies the GLEB has set up through London Production Centre Ltd. And, through a workers' trust, we share in running them. It's a marvellous feeling. We can really achieve something for ourselves, and we are doing our best to make it work".

Ivy Crook, Production Worker, London Production Centre

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The Greater London Enterprise Board is the GLC's industrial development agency. For further details contact: GLEB Information, 63-67 Newington Causeway, London SE1 6BD. Telephone 01-403 0300.

GLC Working for London

THE ARTS



Twenty-five years ago the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre became the Royal Shakespeare Company and established its first London home, at the Aldwych Theatre: Sir Peter Hall (left), Director of the RSC at the time, looks back on those heady days

Creating one of the glories of world theatre



The 1960 *Taming of the Shrew*: Peggy Ashcroft leading the company brilliantly, Peter O'Toole surprising the world as a great classical actor

I directed the British première of *Waiting for Godot* in 1955 at the Arts Theatre, London. I was 24, and lucky enough to be running my first theatre. Soon after the first night, I was taken for a slap-up lunch by Anthony Quayle and Glen Byam Shaw, the prestigious directors of the then-named Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon. It was flattering. It was also memorable to someone earning £7 a week plus luncheon vouchers.

Would I, they asked, like to join them in a new Stratford venture? They hoped to get a lease on the Royal Court Theatre and perform new plays there each winter with the Memorial Theatre actors. I agreed without hesitation. I never heard another word about the scheme. But the story illustrates the mood of the times in the theatre: one full of new ideas, new possibilities, and change.

The postwar theatre boom was still on. And though new drama – and especially drama about the way we lived – was not much in evidence, John Whiting was making me hope that one day young writers would turn to plays as easily as they turned to novels. In 1956, it happened. George Devine started the English Stage Company at the Royal Court and *Look Back in Anger* heralded a writers' revolution. Meanwhile, the Arts Council was beginning its great task. Wisely applied subsidy was gradually helping our theatre to become an international force.

It was still, in those days, economically possible to do Shakespeare in the West End without subsidy. And at Stratford, the spring-to-autumn Shakespeare festival was filled with great productions and great actors. Quayle himself, Peter Brook, Gielgud, Olivier, Richardson, Scofield, Diana Wynyard, Vivien Leigh, Redgrave and the young Richard Burton had transformed the reputation of the Memorial Theatre. Above all, for me, there had been Peggy Ashcroft. . . .

In 1957, I directed *Cymbeline* at Stratford, with Peggy as Imogen. It was the first time I had worked with a great star. Her perception and imagination made me into a better director. And, in 1958, I returned to Stratford to direct *Twelfth Night*. The cast included Dorothy Tutin, Geraldine McEwan, Richard Johnson, Ian Holm, Patrick Wymark, Roy Dotrice – all young actors who were later to join me in the great adventure of starting the Royal Shakespeare Company.

That summer, Glen Byam Shaw (then sole director at Stratford – Tony Quayle had left) called me into his office and told me he had decided to resign at the end of 1959. His leaving present to me was amazing. It was an invitation to direct, in the 1959 festival, Olivier and Edith Evans in *Coriolanus* and Charles Laughton in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and, when the season finished, to succeed him as the Memorial Theatre's director.

I was flabbergasted and very, very nervous. I was 27, and now had a successful career as a director in the West End. I was just about to direct on Broadway, and films were beginning to beckon. I knew, though, that Stratford offered me the possibility of a lifetime. I had a passionate belief in a community of theatre – a group of people with shared ideas and a shared aesthetic, learning together from failure as well as success. I'd always wanted to form and run an acting company. Stratford could possibly give me the chance to do it. The Memorial Theatre was now a beautifully oiled machine for producing plays. And it had a huge audience. I told Glen my dream. He was encouraging, but said it would all depend on Fordy.

Fordy was Sir Fordham Flower, the Chairman of the Governors. He was the latest in the long line of Flowers, the brewers, who had given so much of their time and their money to the cause of Shakespeare at Stratford ever since Charles Flower's energy and generosity had raised a theatre there in 1879. Fordy was a great man: tolerant, maddeningly disinterested and sleepy about small matters, but visionary and determined over large ones. Would I get his support?

Our meeting to talk about my ideas, when it finally happened, was in a surprising place. The Stratford company were in Leningrad with *Romeo and Juliet*, *Twelfth Night* and Michael Redgrave's *Hamlet*. Fordy had come along. We were only the second British company to visit Russia since the Revolution; the first had been the Scofield/Brook *Hamlet*. Our audiences were hysterical with enthusiasm. For three weeks, I had been to the Russian theatre every night seeing performances that seemed imprisoned in amber. It was a museum theatre concerned with perfectly observed and executed naturalism, but with a sensibility of about 1910. I asked constantly about Myerhold. They said they had never heard of him.

Our hotel was a turn-of-the-century plaster-and-gilt palace, dusty and overheated. There, late one night, I told Fordy Flower my dream for the Memorial Theatre. He didn't say much. But he was a listener who made you more lucid.

I told him I wanted to form a company, to issue three-year contracts for actors, to surround them with a small group of directors, designers and management who would all go on from year to year. I wanted to take a London theatre, chiefly (though not entirely) for staging modern plays. We had to make sure that we had modern sensibilities if we were to develop a new style of playing Shakespeare, and everything we did would be concerned with that.

But who would pay for it? Stratford then received no state grant. It was, in effect, subsidized by the people who worked there. In 1955, Olivier was earning the top salary of £60 a week to play Macbeth and Titus Andronicus. The National Theatre was coming over the horizon (it began, at the Old Vic, in 1963). Stratford was, in my view, at the crossroads. It must either expand and make a new aesthetic, or remain a seasonal festival, largely dependent for its success on the uncertain presence of visiting stars.

Stratford had savings amounting to some £170,000. They'd been accumulated by profitable tours: of Canada in the Thirties, and by Tony Quayle in the Fifties who had led a company round Australia. This was the nest-egg. I asked Fordy if I could spend it. I thought, if we were successful, we could swiftly justify a subsidy.

Fordy looked at me and considered. It was about four in the morning. "I think you're probably mad. But I like the scheme and I'll back you." So the great adventure began.

Until 1966, when Fordy tragically died, he was the greatest support and encouragement that a theatre director could imagine. I can never properly express what I owe him. Without the nest-egg, the gamble could never have been tried. But without Fordy it would never have happened.

In my first year as Director of Stratford, we were lucky. Peggy Ashcroft led the company brilliantly. Peter O'Toole, then in his late twenties, surprised the world as a superb classical actor. Our name was changed to the Royal Shakespeare Company, by gracious permission of the Queen. (I'd always felt the "Memorial" tag was graveyard labelling – not much to do with living theatre.) At the end of 1960 we opened our London home and so were performing not only Shakespeare at Stratford but new plays, and classics related to Shakespeare, at the Aldwych Theatre. Peggy Ashcroft had, without hesitation, agreed to be the first actor under contract. Where she led, others followed. The company had begun.

The next six years contained riches. John Barton joined me from Cambridge. John Whiting (a friend since I left university) wrote a big-scale new play for us, a huge critical success, *The Devils*. Peter Brook began a magnificent sequence of innovative productions including *King Lear* and *The Marat/Sade*. Michel St Denis opened his studio. We staged a memorable season of new plays at the Arts Theatre. Peter Daubeny launched his influential World Theatre Seasons.

I did Pinter's *Homecoming* and *The Wars of the Roses* – four of Shakespeare's history plays which John Barton and I reduced to three, with David Warner as a mesmeric Henry VI. In 1961, we won our first subsidy from the Arts Council. All the time, new talent was joining. Trevor Nunn and Terry Hands both arrived in 1965. Twelve months or so later, we had established that we were eventually going into a new purpose-built theatre of our own in the Barbican and, by the end of 1966, John Bury and I had designed it. It had all happened in half-a-dozen year.

I don't believe such an extraordinary sequence of events could possibly occur today. First, there isn't the money. Second, there's less confidence about, and far less vision. Our new Arts Council say they believe the subsidized theatre should operate as businesses do. They would hardly now sanction the formation of the RSC, with the National here. The accountants would tell them it wasn't necessary, ignoring the huge artistic stimulus of competition.

Telling the story this briefly has one disadvantage: it makes it sound easy. It wasn't. At the beginning, there was a great deal of opposition, a great deal of enmity. And it wasn't just the normal reaction in Britain to anything new; it was often specific. For instance the West End managers, understandably, were fiercely against us having a London theatre. It wasn't until after Peter Brook's *Lear* and Clifford Williams's *Comedy of Errors*, both in 1962, and *The Wars of the Roses* in 1963, that everbody accepted the Royal Shakespeare Company as a force to be reckoned with. It is a force that my friend Trevor Nunn – joined lately by Terry Hands – has made one of the glories of world theatre.

Concert

Philharmonia/Rattle
Festival Hall/Radio 3

I wish more concerts were as full of good things as this one. It began, encouragingly, with a performance of David Matthews's beautiful *September Music*, whose presence in the programme was a gesture typical of Simon Rattle. This short work, composed in 1979 and revised two years later, makes its mark partly through a compelling simplicity of form.

But, aside from the luxuriant harmonies and clear referential pitches, the most impressive feature, one feels, of this opulent, neo-Mahlerian tone-poem is the orchestration. The very opening of the work, where four horns interweave, creating a lush texture redolent of the music of Nicholas Maw (Matthews's teacher), hints at the general ripeness of the piece. But nothing quite prepares us for the spellbinding way in which timbres melt into each other, for instance when, chameleon-like, a horn becomes a clarinet becomes an oboe. The Philharmonia Orchestra's reading lacked a degree of lusciousness, and sometimes the strings sounded slightly tenuous; but they certainly achieved the requisite autumnal, nostalgic atmosphere.

And then a complete contrast, in the form of Mozart's Piano Concerto in G, K453, with its soloist Alfred Brendel. One might have disagreed with some of the finer details of his carefully nuanced reading, but there is no arguing with the man's conviction in what he does, nor the taste with which he does it.

The first movement was kept firmly restrained, the piano making its comments with a light, divertimento-like touch and the orchestra responding appropriately, while the finale's innocent merry-making was never allowed to get too rumbustious. And it was good to hear such a clear bassoon line in the considered Andante.

Finally there was Shostakovich's vast *Tenth Symphony*. There are times in this work when one still feels the composer to have set his symphonic sights too high. The Allegretto, in particular, does tax one's patience with its over-repeated self-mocking DSCH motif although elsewhere there is something teasing about the Tchaikovsky-like interplay between the intense and apparently facile. Rattle and his orchestra were magnificent here, admirably sustaining those long lines of thought in the despairing first movement while reacting with the sharpest of responses to the demands of the giddying Scherzo and finale.

Stephen Pettitt

Opera

Nerone
Logan Hall

It took Boito nearly 60 years to decide that his *Nerone* was a struggling monument that could not be saved, and it has taken us as long to reach the same conclusion. First produced in 1924, posthumously, the work was performed in Britain for the first time on Tuesday by Abbey Opera for the Camden Festival, and, though it was very far from being an unflawed performance, nobody could seriously maintain that a masterpiece was being traduced. Rather one sat and watched in quiet sympathy as this ramshackle opera slid into the deep.

At one point, in 1870, Boito had offered the libretto to Verdi, but it was too early: Verdi had not forgotten the young writer-musician's polemics against the condition of the arts in Italy. By the time they began their collaboration, there were of course other projects in hand, and Boito had already begun his own setting of *Nerone*. He was doing so, however, through the voice of a Verdi internalized. Whereas in *Mefistofele* he had made some small discoveries of a musical self, in *Nerone* he seems to have written the music he imagined Verdi might have composed for his scenes.

Perhaps at this stage in his life he could do nothing else, since Verdi had become so important to him; but it was a project that was bound to fail. By recalling Verdi so strongly, particulary *Aida* and *Otello*, Boito's opera demonstrates its weakness the more openly, and it has to be weak because the essence of genius is inimitable. Time and again *Nerone* makes the Verdian gesture – the triumphal march, the hysterical outburst for a dramatic soprano, the solemn prayer for a bass – without being able to find the melodic quality or the mastery of the orchestra one is made to expect.

One begins to see why a librettist needs a composer, and one begins to see too why a composer needs a librettist: when the same man is fulfilling both functions, and the drama is basically one of character, then there may seem something manipulative about personages being put into situations where they have to sing. He who makes the puppets should not also be seen to pull the strings.

Here the cast was led manfully by Donald Pilley in the title role, with Alexander Gauld as the inwardly dead Simon Magus, Elizabeth Byrne making a fair stab at the frenetic Asteria and Sirry Ella Magnus as a warm yet pure Rubria. Antony Shelley conducted.

Paul Griffiths

Theatre

Up 'n' Under
Fortune

Humberside boasts two famous rugby league teams in Hull and Hull Kingston Rovers, and in the Hull Truck Company a much praised theatrical ensemble. They now bring to the Fortune John Godber's play which won the Fringe First Award at last year's Edinburgh Festival and the Laurence Olivier Comedy of the Year Award for 1984.

Rugby league is the more dourly attritional version of the game – fox and geese as against rugby union's chess – and in the first half at least *Up 'n' Under* seeks to grind down our resistance by means of some similarly dogged tactics. That it ultimately succeeds is a tribute more to the lively performances and clever staging than to its rather flat and obvious script.

A mock heroic prologue introduces the agreeably improbable theme. Arthur Hoyle is that familiar figure of modern folklore, the middle-aged sports fan whose knowledge of the game is boundless and whose prejudices are terminal. A walking argument of a man, Arthur contracts a wild bet with a local wide boy: his house against £3,000 that he can train any team in Yorkshire to beat the fearsome Cobbler's Arms in the forthcoming seven-a-side amateur rugby league tournament. For dramatic purposes, the team he takes on have to be no-hopers and the lads from The Wheatsheaf duly oblige.

This is where Mr Godber's invention runs out of puff.

Where the play works is in the crisp staging of two set pieces: the training session in a gym run by a bouncy blonde martinet, and the climactic match in which the cast of six play both teams and make full use of television techniques such as slow-motion action replays. All this is imaginatively conceived by the author-director and craftily lit by Jon Swain.

What must be the fittest cast in the West End includes Jonathan Linsley as a 20-stone Desperate Dan of a butcher, Richard James Lewis, who turns in a memorable mime sequence, and Stewart Howson as the ranting Arthur.

Martin Cropper

● Kenneth Fleet, Executive Editor (Finance and Industry) of *The Times*, is the new Chairman of the Chichester Festival Theatre Board. He took over yesterday from Leslie Evershed-Martin. The summer season opens on May 1 with Noël Coward's *Calvalcade*.

Television

A history unsafe

The second episode of *Oscar* (BBC1) was concerned with the trial in which Wilde proved that he was a great tragedian, and so it had the advantage of the original court transcripts; that this *was* an advantage became immediately apparent in the first of this series, during the course of which Wilde so forgot the art of conversation that he spent his entire time quoting (and sometimes misquoting) from his plays.

The familiar epigrams then fell with the slowness, if not the finality, of a theatrical curtain. At least last night's instalment in this soap-opera version of his life held the fascination of all courtroom scenes, even if it had very little to do with the fascination of Wilde.

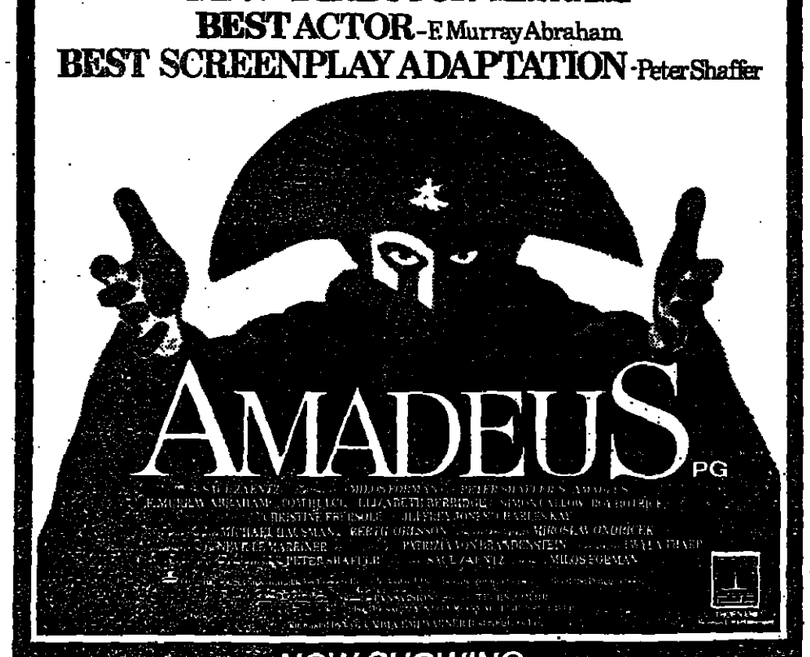
This is partly the fault of Michael Gambon who, though physically resembling his subject to a certain extent, seemed so dazzled by his reputation that he gave him too queenly an air. The real Wilde was overtly and almost aggressively male: this Oscar might have stepped from the pages of one of Quentin Crisp's guides to good behaviour and, if he was gilded, the decoration came from the local Odeon rather than the 1890s. There were even violins at inappropriate moments.

The whole enterprise was in fact rather uncertain: historical characters were introduced with all the aplomb of a drunken butler – "Oh, Mr Beerbohm . . ." – and even history itself was not safe from the over-indulgence of the makers of this programme. It was not Robbie Ross, but Lionel Johnson, who introduced Alfred Douglas to Wilde; and here once again was the old canard that Wilde contracted syphilis from a prostitute (female) while at Oxford. The only thing he contracted at Oxford was Pater's prose style, which in the end was to prove more damaging.

This series was a missed opportunity, then, particularly because it concentrated in a conventional manner upon Wilde's "fall" and did nothing to illuminate the fact that he was the greatest artist of his period, in his critical writings no less than in his more notorious drama. But on this occasion period detail was substituted for historical imagination: if such an enterprise is to work, the invention used to recreate Wilde ought to be at least within striking distance of Wilde's own.

Peter Ackroyd

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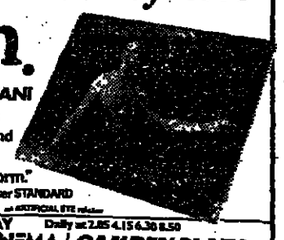
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When Sir Stamford Raffles founded Singapore, the British Government was keen to trade freely anywhere in the world.

The same philosophy has been adopted by the present British Government. And it is very much Singapore Airline's standpoint as it argues a case for Manchester services.



The story so far.

The existing Air Services Agreement between the United Kingdom and Singapore does not lay down the number of services to be operated.

It leaves the airlines themselves to decide how many services to provide, in the light of their own commercial judgement. But the British Government has imposed restrictions on us. We are only allowed to operate one service a day into Heathrow.

In February 1983 and again in September 1984, Singapore Airlines applied to start a new route to Manchester. The Department of Transport agreed to this, but only on condition that SIA's services to Heathrow were reduced.

The British Government knows, just as other airlines know, that anything less than a daily service on this increasingly popular route will not make commercial sense. So the Government's response is tantamount to a 'No' to Manchester.

Why has the Government said 'No'?

1. Does it think there is insufficient traffic to justify extra services?

Since 1976, when daily frequencies with B747's began, passenger traffic has grown from 173,000 to over 300,000 – up 73%. In the same period cargo has grown 145%. Yet, there has been no increase in either BA's or SIA's services during this period.

2. Could it be that it doubts our commercial judgement? Is it worried that we will lose money?

Our track record speaks for itself. Furthermore, Mr Spicer, the Aviation Minister, has said recently that airlines should be encouraged to back their own commercial judgement. This is precisely what we want to do.

3. Does the Government think SIA has an unfair advantage?

SIA has never received a single dollar in subsidy. This has been acknowledged in Parliament by Mr Spicer himself.

4. Does the Government want to protect British Airways?

Lord King himself has always said that BA welcomes competition. We ourselves would be happy for a British airline to compete with us on the route.

Is it commercially viable to serve Manchester?

1. Manchester is an International Gateway Airport. It serves 20 million people in an area that supports 60% of the UK's manufacturing industry.

2. Manchester Airport Authority estimates that in the first year there would be 19,000 outbound passengers to Singapore, and a further 19,000 going beyond. There would be considerable inbound traffic as well.

3. SIA does not start new services unless it is totally satisfied that they are commercially viable.

4. That is why the company has made a profit in every single year since it started in 1972. It is now one of the world's largest international airlines, although it comes from a country the size of the Isle of Wight.

How does this fit in with the Government's position?

The recent white paper on Airline Competition Policy declared 'the barriers to new services and airlines who can provide a safe and reliable service should be low...Only competition will ensure the flow of innovative ideas, and new management and marketing methods.'

Surely, what we are doing is exactly what Mrs Thatcher would applaud.

Manchester is keen to welcome us.

Britain is Singapore's largest trading partner in Europe. For all the benefits of international trade, increased employment and tourism, the Manchester Airport Authority is keen to welcome us. And certainly it would ease congestion at Heathrow.

People in the North will also appreciate the gentle grace and style of Singapore Girls like Goh Mui Jong who have given us the kind of inflight service that even other airlines talk about.

For all of these reasons, Singapore Airlines politely and respectfully asks Mr Nicholas Ridley to change his mind.

SINGAPORE AIRLINES
A great way to fly

Manhattan transfer

The Times Profile: The New Yorker

"How does he think of us?" mused Ved Mehta, the distinguished Indian writer, in his tiny, monkish cell at *The New Yorker* magazine. "Does he sees us as a Rembrandt, something to treasure?"

The New Yorker, the idiosyncratic haven for writers of style and wit, is being sold to publishing tycoon Samuel I. Newhouse, junior. In the closed and cloistered world of this most extraordinary cultural institution, it seems an earthquake.

Mr Mehta's office is cramped. He works at a simple wooden table, the paint is peeling and the furniture battered. *The New Yorker* is not housed in a glamorous Manhattan office block, with gleaming pot plants and glittering secretaries. The editorial reception area verges on the seedy, and its black leather sofa has seen better days.

Mr Mehta shows some of the apprehension that now permeates the cloistered, college atmosphere at the magazine. Other publications may have regular shake-ups, but not *The New Yorker*. It has been in the hands of one family for all of its 60 years, and the present editor is only the second in its history.

"People are worried and rather depressed", said Mr Mehta. "They wonder whether the new owner will want to bring change, or, as I say, preserve us like a painting."

Mr Newhouse heads a huge publishing empire; this includes America's third largest chain of newspapers, Condé Nast Magazines (which owns *Vogue, Vanity Fair* and *House and Garden*), and book publishers Random House. He has paid a generous $142 million for *The New Yorker*.

"You will see why there is concern", said Mr Mehta. "Mr Newhouse has promised not to change anything. He says he will guarantee the magazine's independence, and we are hoping that he will keep to that.

"If he tries to make *The New Yorker* chic and fashion conscious, it will disintegrate. In some places, writers are treated like stocks and shares, one day riding high, the next day falling. You cannot do that here.

"It is the perfect environment for a writer, a mini-university. In 1959, I submitted a long article about my return to India after a 10-year absence, and it was accepted. Two years later, I joined the staff. Once you have been accepted, and become one of the family, you are left alone.

"If you encounter a dry period, say for five or six years, you are not harassed, nobody worries you. If you are asked to edit a piece on a subject that does not interest you, you can say that you do not want to do it, because the subject is not congenial to you, and nobody will take it amiss. If a writer is not popular with the public, and nobody is reading his books, it will not matter. *The New Yorker* will still encourage and support him."

CHRONOLOGY

1925: February 21. First issue of *The New Yorker*. Edited by Harold Ross; with Eustace Tilley on the cover.

1946 August 31. Publication of John Hersey's article on Hiroshima, which caused a sensation.

1951: December 6. Death of Harold Ross, aged 59.

1952: January 21. William Shawn appointed editor.

1976: March 29. Saul Steinberg's famous illustration of New York as centre of world on cover. Made into a poster, it was immensely popular.

1984: November. Samuel I. Newhouse, jun, purchases 17 per cent of *The New Yorker's* stock for almost $26m.

1985: March 8. The directors announced unanimous vote to approve Mr Newhouse's offer to buy the remaining 83 per cent for $142m.

This remarkable world is benignly held together by the very private, and elaborately polite, editor, William Shawn who is always Mr Shawn to his intensely loyal staff.

Over tea in his office, writers suggest articles they would like to tackle, and if he agrees they are then left alone. Mr Shawn does not ask for a specific number of words, nor does he say when he would like to see the copy.

There are none of the usual journalistic tensions at *The New Yorker*. No competition, commercial pressures, nor men in green eyeshades. Mr Shawn has never held an editorial conference, but he does have a weekly art meeting when he chooses the cartoons, which are of a consistently high standard.

Each week, out of this clannish and deceptively amateur little world, emerges an urbane magazine of short stories, articles, drawings, commentary and criticism. It is extremely successful, with a steady circulation of 500,000 and showed a profit of about $5.6 million last year.

Since the editor always made the decisions, the staff were shocked to realize that he had not been consulted about the recent sale of the magazine. He walked down from his office (he hates lifts) and read the sale announcement to his staff in a trembling voice. "No wonder he was so unhappy", said one writer. "They had gone over his head. He had to keep stopping as he read the announcement because he was so upset. We were all tearful."

After making the announcement, Mr Shawn added: "The editorial staff was not a party to the negotiations. We were not asked for our approval, and we did not give our approval."

"But", says Calvin Trillin, a writer who joined the staff 22 years ago, "I think we have to trust Newhouse, to assume that he will keep his promise of non-interference. The magazine has always been owned by the Fleischmann family and any change is bound to cause a big noise. It is natural that people are edgy, but I think we have to be optimistic.

"*The New Yorker* is unique. Look at our shabby office. You would have to search hard to find an electric typewriter. Someone once said that the place looks like the branch office of a failing insurance company. But then consider the checking department: no expense is spared to make certain that everything is correct. If, for instance, a fact could not be checked by a telephone call to France, then someone would fly there to do it."





Cover stories: The famous and still used original, and Steinberg's view of New York



Making news: Mr Shawn (left) and new owner S. I. Newhouse

The writers are generously paid (about one dollar per word) and some articles run to more than twenty or thirty thousand words. Staff writers, who have modest offices in the building, sign contracts which are worth a nominal $1,000 a year, in which they agree to produce something, sometime, for the magazine. They are paid when articles are accepted.

In 1961, John Updike, the novelist, wrote a piece about the use of inverted commas. He was paid and the article appeared in 1982, 21 years, three months and a day after it was written.

Steeped in tradition, legend and mystery, *The New Yorker* has not changed much since the first issue of February 21, 1925, when a foppish, top-hatted fellow called Eustace Tilley adorned the cover. Tilley is examining a butterfly through his monocle, and, every February, on the Monday which falls closest to the inaugural date, the magazine prints the Tilley cover.

"*The New Yorker* was the outstanding flop of 1925, a year of memorable successes in literature, music and entertainment, and the only flop that kept on going", wrote James Thurber, in his affectionate portrait of Harold Ross, the first editor. "From an original run-off of 15,000 copies in February, its circulation fell to a pernicious-anaemia low of 2,700 copies in August."

One evening during that summer, Harold Ross met Dorothy Parker and asked her why she had not come into the office to write a piece she had promised. "Mrs Parker turned upon him the eloquent magic of her dark and lovely eyes", Thurber wrote. "'Somebody was using the pencil', she explained sorrowfully."

But Raoul Fleischmann, who had backed the magazine with profits from his yeast business, had faith in the eccentric, choleric and brilliant Ross, and it soon paid off. Ross created a sophisticated magazine, filling its pages with the work of writers like Thurber, Dorothy Parker, E. B. White, John O'Hara, and S. J. Perelian.

The roll of honour continued, and since Mr Shawn became editor at the beginning of 1952, more than 850 books have had their genesis in *The New Yorker*. The authors include Rachel Carson, Vladimir Nabokov, Rebecca West, Truman Capote, Jacobo Timerman and Mary McCarthy.

In his book on Ross, James Thurber quotes Ogden Nash: "Ross was an almost impossible man to work for. Rude, ungracious, and perpetually dissatisfied with what he read – and I admire him more than anyone I have met in professional life. Only perfection was good enough for him, and on rare occasions he encountered it, he viewed it with astonished suspicion."

Ross created a whimsical and humorous magazine, but after the Second World War, it began to publish more serious writing. John Hersey's famous article, published in 1946, on the bombing of Hiroshima, caused a sensation. It was William Shawn who persuaded the cautious Ross that a whole issue should be devoted to the piece. There was more praise than attack from readers, and, before long, a copy of the issue, if you could find one, cost $25.

The New Yorker has its critics. Long-winded, boring and irrelevant, dull, arch, with articles so long that they are a test of reader endurance are among the things they say. One curmudgeon, writing in the current issue of the liberal weekly, *The New Republic*, attacks the magazine for its Posturing politics", and adds: "aside from that of Kim Il Sung, the cult of William Shawn is the most tenacious cult of personality in the world today. One editorial tic for which Mr Shawn is famous, is buying major articles and then not publishing them – stockpiling them instead like grain before the advancing lean years."

It is unlikely that the reticent Mr Shawn will reply to the barb. At most he might pin a notice up in the office, and he did in 1969, in reply to a criticism that the magazine was 'square' and out-of-date. *The New Yorker* isn't with it" he said. "The New Yorker is ahead of it."

Penny Symon

BOOKS I

Laurel and Hardy in a single poet

POETRY

Robert Nye

Theodore Roethke wrote poems about stems and stones and weeds and God and pencils and greenhouses and the sadness and the glory of lost childhood. He was fascinated by movement, agility, warmth, wetness, growth. His lines nudge and bulge. His rhythms fall naturally into dance-time, waltzing with what they mean, stamping sometimes up and down, achieving once in a while a strange dignity, a kind of whirling accidental dervish grace, like a fat man who by sheer inspiration and close attention to the pattern of the music he hears has managed to release the thin man inside him so that the thin man spins off dancing like a ghost.

Roethke's Collected Poems, available now for the first time in paperback *(Faber, £4.95)*, contains the complete text of his seven published books as well as 16 previously uncollected poems. For all their wit and music and allusiveness – real enough pleasures – Roethke's finest poems seem to me inhabited and shaped by simplicity. He spoke himself of "the muck and welter, the dark, the dreck" of his verse, while saying that he counted himself "among the happy poets".

There is an exhilaration in him, an excitement in the face of bright colours, an exuberance in celebrating the blooming buzzing confusion of a child's world, that can as quickly give way to images of sadness, of desolation, or change and loss and regret. This mood-spectrum is most convincing where Roethke does not seek to rationalize it at all, but just thinks directly in metaphor.

It's dark in this wood, soft mocker.
For whom have I swelled like a seed?
What a bone-ache I have.
Father of tensions, I'm down to my skin at last.

Sylvia Plath learned a lot from lines like that. And for others than poets, Roethke has written certain lines which are immediately intelligible and memorable and likely to last as long as there are people left to care about such things:

I have known the inexorable sadness of pencils,
Neat in their boxes, dolour of pad and paper-weight,
All the misery of manila folders....

The young English poet John Ash looks, at first sight, about as far removed from Roethke's slapdash humanism as it would be possible to imagine, but in fact the verse in his second collection The Branching Stairs *(Carcanet, £4.95 paperback)* has qualities of toughness and tenderness beyond its dandified wit, and above all it has an imaginative vigour which I think that Roethke would have liked. Ash concentrates a playfully profound imagination upon the whole problem of meaning and identity, and comes up with no answers, only alternative questions in the form of well-made verse which in a sense *replaces* the joys and anxieties which inspired it.

Now the moon is rising swiftly
We can hear the songs of the casinos
And tonight we may meet again
The one whose lost look deceived us

There is a heady mixture of distinctive vitalities at work here, and if much of Ash's work favours an impenetrable surrealistic obscurity, the moments when he breaks out of this to produce lines of uncommon memorability are the more impressive. A difficult and demanding "experimental" poet, but in my opinion an authentically original new voice.

If Roethke always sounds nothing less than American, and John Ash as if he thought and felt in French, then it is perhaps apt to salute again the quintessential *Englishness* of Andrew Young, whose Poetical Works *(Secker & Warburg, £12.95, £7.95 paperback)*, published in the centenary year of his birth, is this spring's special commendation of the Poetry Book Society. I am, of course, aware that Young was born in Scotland, but I am not referring to nationality so much as voice and tone, to the matter of being at home in a particular linguistic tradition. Young's best poems are quiet. They do not show off a personality. They make no fuss about anything. They just *are*. And, like all real poetry, this means that what they are is neither old nor new, but something seemingly remembered even the first time we read it:

If it should come to this,
You cannot wake me with a kiss,
Think I but sleep too late
Or once again keep a cold angry state.

That is beautiful and exact, from a poem entitled "A Prospect of Death" which is altogether a little masterpiece of plain statement of complicated feeling. Young was a minor poet – but a splendid one, within his limits.

The jugglers who turn loss into profit

BANKRUPTCY PART 3

In the final part of our series, Stephen Aris looks at the unscrupulous liquidators who ride roughshod over Britain's insolvency law

If receivers are the aristocrats of the profession, liquidators are the journeymen. For many companies receivership is not necessarily the end of the road, but liquidation is invariably terminal.

The liquidator arrives when all hope has gone, and his job is simply to wind up the company and distribute whatever assets remain. Sometimes the receiver has been there before him, in which case the pickings are usually slim. Where the company has gone straight into liquidation, the job can be more rewarding.

The technicalities of liquidation are, however, formidable and baffling: a jungle through which the unscrupulous have learned to cut some very profitable paths. "There is a Mafia-like web of cavalier insolvency practitioners in Britain", said Bernard Philips, outgoing chairman of the Insolvency Practitioners' Association, which was set up largely to control the cowboys.

"These bounders milk the owners of companies and the creditors, and have blackened the name of insolvency practice." Liquidation can be a highly profitable business, even for the most scrupulous, but the cowboys charge all along the line.

There is the initial "consultation" fee, which can be as much as £1,000; the fee for preparing the statement of affairs; the standard percentage charge on assets realized; and finally, very often, a backhander from the directors, who have bought back the assets at a knock-down price.

The game does not necessarily stop there. Although new government legislation proposes a change in the current law, anyone has been able to set up as a receiver or liquidator provided he was not himself a bankrupt or otherwise disqualified from being able to serve as a director of a company. Frequently the rogue liquidator will grab the assets within hours of his appointment and sell them at a notional price to nominee companies, controlled by himself or his friends.

This is a very crude manoeuvre. Many of the cowboys now employ much more sophisticated techniques: They have become experts in the art of shuffling debts and assets to enable seemingly bankrupt companies to rise phoenix-like from the ashes to everyone's advantage, save the creditors.

"We know the insolvency laws backwards", Maurice Sidney Caplan, better known as "Hissing Sid", told *The Sunday Times* in 1981. "They are so loose ... we can drive a coach and horses through them."

To see him at his most ingenious we need to look at the case of the vanishing organs. The story starts in 1981 when Amrik Singh Luther, an Indian entrepreneur from Manchester, ran into difficulties. For some years, through a company called Chase Consultants Ltd., he had been selling a whole range of synthesizers, organs, guitars and other musical equipment. At the height of his fortunes he had a turnover of more than £1m.

Luther claims, however, that he was prevented from acting for major manufacturers like Yamaha because of opposition from his competitors. In 1979, in an attempt to break into the big time, Luther signed up with an American company, ARP Synthesizers, to become its British distributor.

A new company, Chase Musicians Ltd., was set up for this purpose, but in practice a lot of the business was handled by the original company, Chase Consultants Ltd., which, to confuse the issue further, actually traded as Chase Musicians. Quite properly, however, separate accounts were kept for the two limited companies.

Hissing Sid's opportunity came in the spring of 1982. ARP, the American firm, had gone bust the previous year, leaving Chase Musicians Ltd high and dry. To drum up business, Luther borrowed £50,000 from his other company, Chase Consultants Ltd, to purchase organs. He bought a consignment from a company called Trevor Daniels, which collapsed shortly afterwards and called in Hissing Sid as liquidator.

It was not long before Luther was presented by Sid's agent with a bill for £16,935. A lively argument followed, in the course of which the agent said: "What's the matter? Are you hard up or something?"

"Who isn't?" Luther replied.

"In that case I think I know somebody who can help you. His name is Caplan and he is as hot as mustard."

About a week later Hissing Sid himself paid a call. He asked to see Luther's books and after a quick examination made a suggestion that so alarmed Luther, a part-time lay preacher to the Sikh community, that he went to the Fraud Squad.



The Sting: Amrik Luther (left) and 'Hissing Sid' Caplan

'The Crown doesn't lose, the bank doesn't lose, but the creditors do'

For the second meeting with Hissing Sid, Luther's small office was wired for sound. One tape recorder was strapped to Luther's thigh with the microphone concealed in his long, black beard.

Luther was also told to draw back the blinds of his office windows so that the police, stationed in a van across the street, could film the entire proceedings. Throughout the subsequent three-hour conversation, Luther, a qualified cost and management accountant, played the part of the dumb innocent. "So who loses out?" he asked at one stage.

"Creditors", Caplan replied. "The Crown doesn't lose, the bank doesn't lose, the creditors do – and the person who gains is you, who buys it all back."

Caplan had spotted that Luther's companies provided a near-perfect vehicle for fraud. Chase Musicians Ltd was the company in trouble as its debts exceeded its assets by some £46,000. Chase Consultants Ltd, on the other hand, was reasonably healthy with a positive balance of some £70,000.

As the two companies had such similar names (and Chase Consultants Ltd was trading as Chase Musicians, although a separate entity from Chase Musicians Ltd), invoices from suppliers were often so unclear that it was next to impossible for an outsider to tell which belonged to what company.

Caplan's plan was simplicity itself. He proposed a straightforward swap of assets and liabilities. Thus the bulk of Chase Musicians Ltd's liabilities. (the ambiguous invoices and the £50,000 loan, to be described as a fictitious "management fee"), would be transferred to Chase Consultants Ltd's balance sheet, while the majority of £500,000 stock and other assets would be switched from Consultants Ltd. to Musicians Ltd.

Over night, Musicians Ltd would be transferred from being a very sick company into a healthy one and Consultants Ltd would be an instant candidate for liquidation. The company would not be stripped entirely bare: there would be enough money to pay off the bank and preferred creditors, but nothing left for the unsecured.

Caplan also suggested that he would arrange for those assets not already transferred to Musicians Ltd to be sold back to Luther at a knock-down price. All the plan needed was a bit of creative accounting.

Hissing Sid said he could put Luther in touch with a firm of chartered accountants who would do the job with no questions asked.

Shortly afterwards, Caplan was arrested. In March last year at Manchester Crown Court he pleaded guilty to inciting Luther to falsify accounts and was fined £5,000.

Limited liability is a concept that goes back more than 120 years. Its purpose is to encourage risk-taking by minimizing the penalties of failure. But it also offers a wonderfully convenient shelter for the crooked, the unscrupulous or the merely sharp, who have invented a practice known as "change the name, the game's the same". It is very common, quite legal and works like this.

A firm is put into voluntary liquidation. A liquidator tidies up the company's affairs. The assets are sold off, but very often they are sold back at knock-down prices to the original owner, who then simply changes the name of his company and opens up again, sometimes the very next day. The dismayed creditors are left to contemplate the wreckage.

Sir Kenneth Cork, the distinguished accountant and insolvency expert, is also the author of the Cork Report on bankruptcy,* which took five and a half years to write and runs to more than 250,000 words.

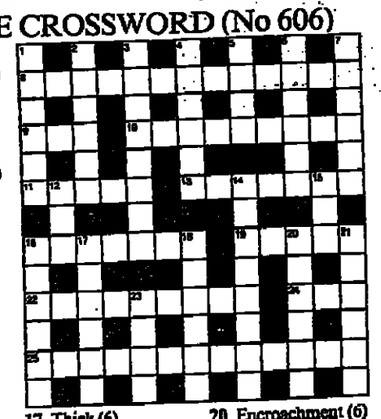
Sir Kenneth wrote: "The answers given by British law today ... do not seem to us, or to many of those who gave evidence to us, to be in tune with modern needs, but responses to economic conditions and attitudes prevalent more than 100 years ago."

Now the Government proposes to stamp out the worst abuses with new legislation, but many of the more far-reaching reforms of the Cork Report have been ignored because Sir Kenneth believes it would take a full Parliamentary session to implement the whole report.

**Insolvency Law and Practice. Report of the Review Committee.*

Adapted by H. J. Weaver from Going Bust, *by Stephen Aris, to be published by Andre Deutsch Ltd, on April 25, price £8.95.*

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 606)



ACROSS
8 Yugoslav lang (5,8)
9 Raced (3)
10 Party declaration (9)
11 Seam (5)
13 Clergy pay (7)
16 Intimate view (5,2)
19 Thick cord (5)
22 Moderator (9)
24 Foolish talk (3)
25 Emotionless (13)

DOWN
1 Starry (6)
2 Eccentric (6)
3 Trade (8)
4 Cargo hoists (6)
5 Stray child (4)
6 Thin web (6)
7 Countless (6)
12 Totality (3)
14 Internal phone (8)
15 Sister (3)
16 Light play (6)
17 Thick (6)
18 Potassium carbonate (6)
20 Encroachment (6)
21 One or other (6)
23 Chew over (4)

SOLUTION TO No 605
ACROSS: 1 Sea dog 4 Gabble 7 Coax 8 Anatolia 9 Falsetto 13 Bye 16 Succes d'estime 17 Eve 19 Throttle 24 Intaglio 25 Many 26 Impede 27 Rustic
DOWN: 1 Sect 2 Avalanche 3 Glade 4 Graft 5 Boom 6 Laity 10 Sleet 11 Tudor 12 Onset 13 Brilliant 14 Ewer 15 Isle 18 Venom 20 Halve 21 Odour 22 Hate 23 Sync

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MACMILLAN LONDON LIMITED v QED PUBLISHING LIMITED AND OTHERS
AGREED STATEMENT

Proceedings issued by Macmillan London Limited ("Macmillan") against QED Publishing Limited ("QED") Quarto Publishing Limited ("Quarto"), Atlas Book Sales Limited ("Atlas") and certain others have recently been settled and this statement has the full approval of QED, Quarto and Atlas.

In 1980 and 1981, Macmillan entered into contracts with QED and Quarto to publish books produced by QED and Quarto entitled *Art School* and *Photo School*. Macmillan was granted hardback and paperback rights in the UK and numerous other countries, which rights were to revert to QED and Quarto if either the hardback books or the paperback books were allowed to go out of print and Macmillan failed to reprint such books within six months after notice from QED and Quarto.

Quarto and QED believed that, with the appearance of Papermac editions of both *Art School* and *Photo School*, it was the intention of Macmillan to allow hardback rights to revert to them as and when these titles went out of print. Macmillan requested reprints of both Papermac editions in early 1983 and Quarto and QED coincidentally arranged for reprints of the US hardback editions. In anticipation of the reversion of Macmillan's hardback rights in the UK and other countries, but without referring to Macmillan, Quarto and QED also entered into a contract with Atlas for the distribution in the UK of the US hardback editions of both books. Atlas agreed not to sell copies in the UK until the reversion of rights had taken place and, if the reversion of rights did not take place, to store the copies printed with the US imprint for subsequent sale to the USA.

In August 1983, Macmillan received notice that booksellers in Britain were selling copies of the US hardback editions ("the offending copies") at prices which considerably undercut Macmillan's hardback and paperback editions. A protest was made to QED and Quarto, who failed to admit that they were the ultimate source of the offending copies, but nevertheless gave an assurance that the incident would not be repeated. In October 1983, a similar incident occurred and Macmillan once again protested to QED and Quarto. In response to this, QED and Quarto sent to Macmillan a copy of a letter from Atlas, stating that the offending copies sold by them in the UK were damaged books purchased from the USA, and repeating the assurance previously given. However, following a meeting in December 1983, QED and Quarto admitted to Macmillan that they were the ultimate source of the offending copies and agreed to instruct Atlas to cease selling such copies and, in so far as possible, to recall those already sold. Despite this, further offending copies were supplied to British bookshops by Atlas and an injunction was sought by Macmillan to restrain further sale or supply. Even after the injunction was granted some further offending copies were sold by Atlas in Britain.

QED and Quarto accepted that they should have ensured that they did not infringe Macmillan's contractual publishing rights, which rights were confirmed by their own undertaking and by the injunction granted against Atlas. Atlas accept that they should not have supplied the offending copies to British bookshops and that they will abide by the injunction granted against them.

Damages and costs have been paid by QED, Quarto and Atlas to Macmillan.

BOOKS II

The private lives of wild artists

FICTION

Nicholas Shakespeare

RICHARD DADD – HIS JOURNALS
By Isaure de Saint Pierre
Translated by Dominic di Bernardi and Noelle Domke
Aidan Ellis, £9.50

OUT OF THE BLUE
By John Milne
Hamish Hamilton, £8.95

THE FINISHING SCHOOL
By Gail Godwin
Heinemann, £9.95

Someone – I think it was a poet called Byalik – observed that reading a work in translation was like kissing a beautiful woman wih a handkerchief over her face. Isaure de Saint Pierre, by all accounts a beautiful French novelist, is further hampered in that the subject of her fiction is an Englishman with a cleft palette – the deranged Victorian painter Richard Dadd.

Saint Pierre's diary of this madman is a brave but exhaustingly lush work of imagination. From his dark asylum – a Broadmoor cell – Dadd remembers in dizzy, spiralling sequences his early life and, most insistently, a journey to the Middle East with his presumed lover Sir Thomas Phillips. Touched by Egypt's tombs and mysteries, it was as if Dadd drank from some stagnant spring which made him believe he was "the son of Osiris, the mad god". Full-blooded visions follow, of Isis straddling the dead Osiris, but Dadd only really sets the gas cooking when following the commands of Osiris, he takes his unsuspecting father to a park in Cobham and murders him.

Sainte Pierre never lets us forget the same hand that cuts throats paints gossamer wings on fairies. Despite a sometimes slobbering translation, she does convince us of his mental state and make us bear with it. She captures both the painter's promiscuous eye for detail and the madman's monstrous sensitivity. One cannot help the feeling however that Dadd's derangement is often an excuse for the author to indulge in her own overripe obsessions, and that had her poetic licence been taken away she would have written an even better book.

Out of the Blue also deals with an elderly fabricating painter. John Milne's first two novels were properly noticed for being a little bit different. His third similarly sparkles in some of its writing and conception, but like a firefly it seems to illuminate its own originality, not anything outside it.

It is the story of an avant garde artist, Paul Brown, who has propelled himself through life on "a stupid, lying sense of humour". As he comes from his Munich studio to open a retrospective show in London, two people try to piece his life together: the narrator – a novelist who wishes he could paint and who only meets him on three occasions – and a severe woman who travels beside him trying vainly to write his biography.

Popping about the tiresomely randy Brown are sinister murders, burglaries, and threats of a neo-Nazi insurrection in Bavaria. Masquerading as something exciting, his life, his art, and in the end the novel which describes them are all rather inconsequential. It is as if the author is using his fictional gifts to piece together the truth of something which actually happened to him; to sort out a private jig-saw puzzle rather than a more universal dilemma.

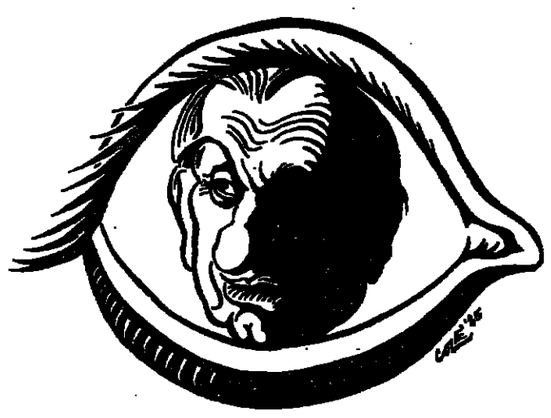
The American novelist Gail Godwin presents us with the dilemma of the Go-Between. Her Finishing School is a very real woodshed – a hut by a pool – in which what is seen by two little girls violently alters their lives. Justin Stokes is a middle-aged actress who looks back to the summer when 14-years old she suddenly came upon a middle-aged former actress. The woman, Ursula deVane, is an exotic outsider to Justin's village and though she once played Goneril at RADA, a greater role lies in store. She is to claim "a permanent place in the theatre of my unconscious".

Ursula is devoting herself to the triumphant comeback of her brother – a desiccated pianist who once got a wonderful review in Argentina. She inspires the androgynous Justin to an adolescent pitch of friendship. She confesses how she revealed her mother's affair in this hut with a music teacher. By the end, "with appalling similarities", Justin has betrayed Ursula.

Ursula, always with basil and lilacs in her hand, does come to life as a woman first mysterious, then human – then pathetic. Gail Godwin pulls out all the stops to tell her story which like an overlarge church organ wheezes and shudders to a rather exaggerated pitch. Some of the stops – economy of writing, avoidance of cliché, use of understatement – are noticeably dicky. "And having gone through the stage of adoring her, despising her and forgiving her," moans Justin deliciously, "maybe I am finally ready to forgive myself."

James Fenton reviews the privates' eye view of the latest world earthquake

Heroes who never have spoken yet



THE GOOD WAR
An Oral History of World War Two
By Studs Terkel
Hamish Hamilton, £12.95

The first thing to say about this book is that it is not a history of World War Two – not in the sense that it makes any attempt to cover the war comprehensively, or even to give a full account of American military operations. Studs Terkel has many fans, most of whom I suspect would say, on reading the previous sentence, that I have completely missed the point. This is an *oral* history – so it is naturally not interested in the details of strategy, diplomacy and so forth, which form the traditional sphere of historical interest. An oral history talks to the privates rather than the generals. It focuses on what the war was like, for Joe Soap, and his wife at home, and the child who grew up in the knowledge that his father was away, and their Japanese-American neighbours who were interned after Pearl Harbour. The people who have not yet had their say.

To which one might reply that this approach, while it might legitimately be called popular, is not essentially oral. There is, concealed behind the business of orality, a negative definition which one might as well bring out into the open: the generals have had their say elsewhere, they are not going to be allowed it here. True there are some famous and influential figures interviewed: Galbraith, for instance, suavely provocative as ever "In the war years, consumption of consumer goods doubled. Never in the history of human conflict has there been so much talk of sacrifice and so little sacrifice". But Galbraith is here, one feels, for unstated political reasons. He is representing the good guys in economic thought, the "unsung heroes" such as Leon Henderson of the War Production Board:

There has been an enormous literature on Albert Speer and the way he was presumed to have organized German production. Henderson . . . organized the United States far more effectively than Germany ever had been. The man whose organization failed is celebrated, while the man who had in mind the successful national venture is lost to history.

Oral history is very much concerned with unsung heroes.

The material is presented in the form of interviews, with a minimum of biographical information and comment, and with a minimum of interviewer's questions left in the transcript. This is seen as a virtue in Mr Terkel – he lets the other guy get on with the talking. And yet there are times when you feel that he should have intervened with some tough questions. Here is a German politician, Erich Lüth, talking about his war years:

I have been a soldier. It was safer than being a suspected civilian. I refused to become an officer. I took a personal oath. I would not shoot against those who fought Hitler. The Allies shot against me, but I could not shoot back. In this respect, I was perhaps a bad German. I did not want to earn a decoration with a swastika on it.

Without wishing to question the truth of this account, I have to say that there is no internal evidence to distinguish it from the banal, self-deceiving, and commonplace accounts of "inner emigration" which Germans of his generation go in for. At the very least, you want Mr Terkel to say: "How interesting – how did you manage to survive in the army on this philosophy? Did nobody notice that you weren't shooting at the enemies of the Führer? And were there times when your oath prevented you from saving the lives of your comrades-in-arms? How did you feel about *that*?"

When Herr Lüth says "I was perhaps a Bad German" he means "I was perhaps a Good German." When Mr Terkel hears this he goes gooey. Oral history is keen on goodness.

What then are the strengths of this book? Quite the best things are the interviews with black Americans, which are both vigorous in tone and vivid in the portrait they paint of race relations at the time. It proved impossible for the military authorities both to enlist black soldiers and to persist in treating them as complete scum, although this line of approach was attempted. Blacks have not forgotten that in for instance Richmond one would see German prisoners of war riding in the front of streetcars, with blacks in the back, that the prisoners and blacks shared separate messlines from the whites, and that camp entertainments were segregated. The war appears to have initiated the Civil Rights movement and to have led to a better deal in education too. The GI Bill, paying for the education of servicemen, was a striking positive outcome of the war.

Here is a man who learnt to read at 27, going dizzy at the consequences:

Imagine, Major Sloan! Would you believe that he insisted I study the Bretton Woods Reports and explain it to the troops? I, who could hardly read. See the boy run. The cat jumped the fence. How can I ever forget this experience and this man.

There's a marvellous little account of the black tank battalion, the 761st. Patton had said that Negroes were incapable of being tankers, the equipment being too technical. In 1944 he requested the best separate battalion they had left in the States, and was sent the 761st. And the speaker goes on to detail with pride the achievements of his battalion.

The accounts of combat do not absolutely dominate the book. You get a strong sense of the Pacific War and the Normandy landings, together with much about the defeat of Germany. But the book's true subject is America – what happened to that ethnically various society and how it has changed since. Such themes and lines of argument as there are have to be deduced by the reader from material which is often diffuse and repetitive. Still, there it is, recorded and set down – at its best, terrific; all of it worth having.

Cheap frills and jaunty old buffers

THRILLERS

Tim Heald

FIELD OF BLOOD
By Gerald Seymour
Collins, £8.95

THE MERITOCRATS
By William Haggard
Hodder & Stoughton, £8.95

They are the same price, these two books, and they both belong on the shelf marked "thriller". They both deal with death and deception, professional people who cheat their spouses and betray their friends and with the drama and suspense of everyday conflict. One, in the current argot of the book trade, is a "big" book and the other is not.

Gerald Seymour's return to Belfast, scene of his successful debut a decade ago, is over 350 pages long and related with a sort of flat, grinding portentousness, with few frills and less humour or irony.

"He came down the stairs, loud and clumsy. He held his woman in his arms, and the strength with which he clung to her squeezed the grin from her cheeks." Or again. "The ambulance Saracen wailed away the few hundred yards to Casualty at the Royal Victoria.

"'Take the vehicle back and get a mug of tea,' Ferris said to Jones."

The style probably suits the subject. The flagging fortunes of the Belfast Brigade of the IRA are to be revived by destroying the car of a well known judge on his way to court. The only man with the skills to work the rocket-launcher necessary for the job is an inadequate soul called Sean Pius McAnally who has fled south of the border to get away from it all. He is pulled back, does the job, is arrested and promised immunity rather than 25 years if he'll spill the requisite beans. Supergrass.

The book is the story of the struggle between his captors, notably a frayed old detective called Rennie, and his former mates, his wife, and his background. The only person who seems genuinely to care about his predicament is a young officer in the Fusiliers called David Ferris. There are cameo roles for the Secretary of State, a fearsomely partisan priest, a ditto (and stupid) regimental CO and Intelligence Officer, and an unctuous solicitor.

As a portrait of what goes on in a situation like this it seemed to me to be entirely credible. It's bleak, often crudely expressed – both sides are ubiquitously foul mouthed – and extremely depressing. Also quite absorbing.

William Haggard, by comparison, is a jaunty entertainer, whose book is rather under half the length and whose intentions appear markedly more frivolous. Whereas the Seymour book takes a worm's eye view, the Haggard looks at life from the top or more specifically from the beady viewpoint of Colonel Charles Russell.

Russell, now advanced in years, is becoming an ever more peppery anachronism with a marvellously certain sense of his own shrewdness.

Take Judith Maxe, the head of the ANNE project. Russell knows just where to invite her for lunch – a restaurant which was "fashionable in a solid and unfussy way and where the food was also good and unfussy." When he orders (at his insistence) he chooses her whitebait and jugged hare which I would have thought a bit risky, but Colonel Russell knows best, and she eats healthily. (I have a feeling the Colonel wouldn't rate a woman without a healthy appetite). Eventually – after the Armagnac – she says "You're a dangerously clever man and you have charm to make it even more dangerous."

Unfortunately I sense that Colonel Russell and his creator believe what the woman is saying. In fact she is merely humouring the old buffers. Never mind, Russell is as snobbishly fastidious as ever; the plot is decent enough; and the writing usually quite tart. A pity it all ends with so much more than a whimper.

Haggard is of an old school; Seymour of a new.

The Beasts

Angela Gordon

MEN: A DOCUMENTARY
By Anna Ford
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £10.95

The idea of Anna Ford writing a magnum opus on men is certainly a titillating one. Here you have the woman we remember as the prim and proper ITN sidekick to the worldly Reggie Bosanquet devoting the past three years to men – the very beasts who, as soon as they looked at her, she'd scream rape (or was it body fascism?). Why she should agree to attempt a social survey on the male psyche beats me; perhaps she wanted to understand the monsters?

Whatever the motive, I suspect she is deeply regretting it. Her efforts – running to 300 pages of seemingly unedited taperecorded ramblings of 120 men – confirm there is simply nothing new to say. Her subjects – all tediously anonymous with such invented names as "Rodney" the army officer and "Fred" the dustman – bore on about how their parents never cuddled them; how they got married too young; how the thrill went out of sex when they got married; how the wife's gone off "it" since giving birth; how they had their bit-on-the-side; and yes, how they only stay for the sake of the children.

Because of the anonymity, I find some of the interviews frankly hard to believe. "Eddie", a 40-year-old carpet-layer, tells Ms Ford "Men like sex better than women, but a man must rely on what affection his wife doles out to him, because women are the only legalized dispensers of affection in our society." He's obviously an Islington socio A-B carpet-layer, but neither here nor elsewhere does Ms Ford challenge her subject.

For the voyeur, she brings us the confessions of 26-year-old policeman "Clive", who says of his first love "She was into pain, being burnt with matches on her chest. I carved my initials in blisters on her chest..." Enough. This is *The Times*. Mercifully, the anonymous Cabinet Minister interviewed will not steam up anyone's bifocals with his pastimes. He sounds a complete wimp – "I weep when they play God Save the Queen." I did laugh aloud once. On the subject of the irritating habits of wives, which alas Ms Ford touches on only briefly, she earnestly cites "picking her toenails while watching TV." I wonder if Ms Ford does that? We shall never know, because like the great social statement on the Eighties Man which some might have hoped from this book, it is left unsaid.

Down and out in the sound archives

Woodrow Wyatt

ORWELL: THE WAR BROADCASTS
Edited by W. J. West
Duckworth/BBC Publications, £12.95

It was a bright idea to search BBC archives in a literary archaeological dig to find more about Orwell.

The best part of his job as a wartime talks producer in the Eastern Services was that it brought him his first decent salary for a long time: £680 a year was a lot in 1941. The worst part was that the talks achieved roughly zero for the war effort.

As Orwell gloomily realized, those in occupied countries were unlikely often to risk their lives listening to commentaries about Macbeth, reserving the moments they dared switch on for more recent war news. In unoccupied countries, like India, those who were happy to listen to William Empson, Stephen Spender, Herbert Read, Edmund Blunden, and George Orwell reading their favourite bits of poetry and prose were fairly pro-British already.

However, the BBC was as portentous as ever about it all. Anodyne scripts and harmless broadcasters were minutely examined to detect and eliminate security risks. Characteristically, Kingsley Martin caused a flutter in the hen-house by not observing the rules over his scripts for topical talks. But it does not seem that the Japanese were aided by his delinquencies.

The editor, W. J. West, is much excited by his discovery of hitherto unpublished Orwell material. Like many archaeologists he tries to build too much on flimsy foundations. Orwell broadcast an adaptation of a short story "The Fox" by Ignacio Silone, "which inspired Orwell to write *Animal Farm*". Did it indeed? The unconvincing evidence is that the farmer in Silone's story kept pigs and that a fox got among his chickens.

Why do people seek so earnestly for Orwell's motives in writing his two most famous books? In 1947 he wrote to Victor Gollancz explaining why he no longer wanted him as his publisher. "You know what the difficulty is, i.e. Russia. For quite fifteen years I have regarded that regime with plain horror . . ." And that was the reason for Gollancz's rejection of *Animal Farm*, a monumental publishing blunder.

However, Mr West has done well in his delving. There is some good Orwellian stuff, useless as war propaganda but entertaining to read now.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Guardian tries pot luck

Despite its lofty stance over such sordid newspaper lotteries as our own Portfolio, *The Guardian* is about to launch its own "very *Guardian*" games, Heat Stroke and The Gourmet Game. In a "confidential" letter to retailers, the paper's circulation director Michael Jack confesses that "having analysed the continuing high plateau of *Times* sales, *The Guardian* must now swallow some of its objections" and revise its hostile stance. "Editorial objections have been overcome so long as the end result is thought to be 'very *Guardian*' ". Heat Stroke, he says is a "straightforward *Times* Portfolio variation, based on world weather temperatures". The Gourmet Game, meanwhile, is "based on a culinary theme, complete with gourmet cards. It offers "cut price meals to readers as well as daily spot prizes of up to £5,000 based on the tried and tested 'lucky numbers' formula". Peter Preston, *Guardian* editor, who has repeatedly and publicly damned such games in the past as disreputable, was clearly embarrassed when I called yesterday: "I am not saying anything. I have an inkling of the letter you are talking about, but I don't think it would be sensible to comment".

Surely, too early for an April Fool prank?

Parkinson post ?

Latest speculation in the City is that Cecil Parkinson is to be appointed chairman of British Telecom to succeed Sir George Jefferson. Sir George was 64 this week. The position, which now commands a £160,000 salary, would be ideal for the former Industry Secretary who, despite growing talk of his "rehabilitation", looks unlikely to get back into the Cabinet. Since the increasing criticism of Nicholas Ridley's handling of the abortive BA sale, observers tipped Parkinson as the next Transport Secretary – a job in which I know for a fact he is not interested.

● **Look who just happens to be reviewing Anna Ford's book *Men* in today's *Listener*: Jonathan Aitken, *the man over whom she deposited* the contents of her wine glass at a party, after he sacked her from TV-am. From the tenor of his review, it sounds as if she ruined his toupee.**

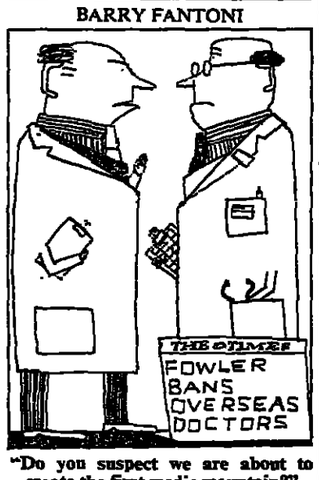
Facing the music

Norman Willis, whose reputation as a stand-up comic has already fallen flat, the TUC leader is about to embark on a new career as a pop singer. This Sunday he will join the Grimethorpe Colliery Band, the GCHQ union choir and the 7:84 *theatre company at Congress House* to record a protest song

Liberal helping

Liberal chief whip Alan Beith is delighted by the letters of gratitude he has received for opposing government proposals to enfranchise only short-term British expatriates. One has come from the British Conservative Association of Switzerland – patron Margaret Thatcher. Another from the British Conservative Association in France which, not content with praising his "gallant fight", suggests he fly out and talk on "the prospects of an introduction of PR".

BARRY FANTONI



"Do you suspect we are about to create the first medic mountain?"

Fawlty towers

Well-heeled residents of the Barbican's Cromwell Tower have just been alerted by their landlords, the City of London, that the BBC is about to film scenes in their forecourt for a new film series, *Strike it Rich*. "It is considered to be the BBC's answer to *Dallas*", says the City, which asks if residents object to the filming of ladies, taxis and "white sports cars" in their forecourt on April 23. The BBC was not amused when I rang to congratulate them on turning the Barbican into South Fork. An indignant spokesman said the new series would be more like *Accident*.

Horse heir

The Queen should be wary of travelling in horse-drawn carriages during her visit to Portugal this week. Nothing was left to chance for the Prince of Wales's visit in 1876 – English carpenters were imported to build pavilions, English musicians to teach the band *God Save the King*, even a glass of English water laid on – yet still the procession through Lisbon turned to farce when one of the horses pulling the royal carriage stopped dead. Despite prods from bayonets and parasols there was no budging him until he was unharnessed. To minimize the scandal the papers next day reported the horse had "gone mad".

PHS

Repeal this election veto

by Robert Hargreaves

Amid the passions stirred by rate-capping, the abolition of the metropolitan counties and the Budget, it is hardly surprising that the 1985 Representation of the People Bill – which reaches committee stage in the House of Lords today – has gone practically unnoticed outside Westminster.

Inside Westminster, MPs missed the opportunity to examine some of the wider workings of existing legislation. Before the new bill finally reaches the statute book the House of Lords should remedy this omission.

One section of the existing RPA is now ripe for reform: the restrictive Section 93, which places limitations on what may be broadcast during elections. Many broadcasters now feel that they have come to work against the democratic process.

Section 93 gives any candidate in an election the right of veto over coverage of his opponents. It was originally enacted to protect the rights of the smaller parties. In practice, it can be used to prevent balanced constituency coverage if any one candidate so chooses, even if he is standing for the Monster Raving Loony Party.

A stark example came during the elections to the European Parliament last year, when Ulster Television planned to broadcast a series of six programmes dealing with the issues and giving all the candidates a chance to put their views. In European elections, Northern Ireland is treated as a single three-member constituency and voting is by a system of proportional representation. UTV offered to divide up the available air time according to a formula based on each party's share of the poll in earlier elections.

That was not enough for one of the candidates, Mr James Kilfedder, whose Ulster Popular Unionist Party was one of the smallest standing. He demanded equal time with the major parties and when he didn't get it he refused to take part in the programme at all, or to sign a disclaimer. Under the terms of the Act UTV was compelled to cancel its whole series of programmes, and audiences throughout Northern Ireland were deprived of proper television coverage because of the veto of one man.

Similar vetoes were imposed on the mainland during the 1983 general election. It was Labour policy not to take part in broadcasts with National Front candidates, which made it impossible under the terms of the Act to reports about some constituencies. In Hackney South the SDP candidate, Ron Brown, used the Act to block a programme about a split in the ranks of the Alliance. In Gainsborough the Conservative candidate declared he was fighting a seat that had been Tory for 60 years, so why should he give the opportunity for others to broadcast their case?

Prestigious network programmes such as *News at Ten* have also been caught by the Act and prevented from carrying adequate constituency reports. Although straightforward newsfilm of a constituency campaign is allowed nowadays, an interview can only be legally carried with the consent of all the other candidates.

In one recent by-election there were no fewer than 17 candidates: to have interviewed them all would have taken up most of the programme and would have given quite disproportionate weight to the views of frivolous or eccentric candidates, some of whom were standing in the election solely to attract personal publicity or commercial advantage.

It is now surely time these unnecessary restrictions on the broadcasting networks were lifted and Section 93 repealed. That would by no means open the floodgates for biased or tendentious reporting. Broadcasters on both networks would still be bound by the requirements at any time to treat controversial subjects with due impartiality.

The RPA, as it stands, is a hindrance to that impartiality. Today's committee stage in the House of Lords may be the last opportunity for many years to propose its amendment.

The author is chief assistant (television) at the IBA.

Jonathan Davis analyses industry's growing worries about unemployment

Jobs push — looking for direction

It is not just the Government which is getting worried about unemployment and the next election. Britain's industrialists are also becoming increasingly alive to the importance of success for the Government's "supply side" drive to remove obstacles to job creation.

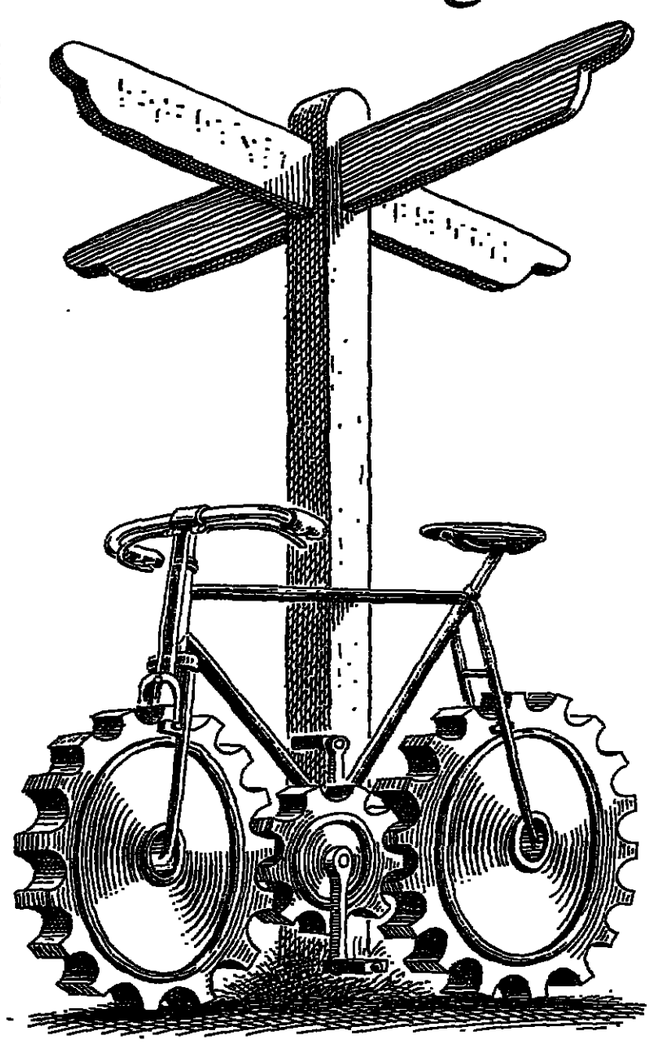
The Government campaign, which began with Mr Lawson's Budget last week, continues with a series of linked press conferences this week. This includes the new Employment White Paper today and the publication of its study into the regulatory burdens on jobs tomorrow.

The CBI has certainly lost no time in falling in behind the much trumpeted government initiative. Sir Terence Beckett, the CBI director general, has already welcomed the Chancellor's moves to revamp the structure of national insurance contributions and the decision to extend the Youth Training Scheme. This Tuesday the CBI took a further step by launching its own consultation exercise to map out "a medium-term business strategy" for the next few years.

The 68-page consultation document covers a wide spectrum of issues, including the case for proportional representation and longer-term Parliaments. At its heart, however, as CBI president Sir James Cleminson admitted, is the question of how to tackle unemployment.

In his words, the free enterprise system is now on trial. "We must accept that if the system cannot find ways of ending the blight of unemployment in this country and allow for the development of deprived peoples here and overseas, then its validity is in question", he said. In some areas it is already being challenged. "If free enterprise in the north of the country means 20 per cent unemployment in some areas, then it inevitably comes into question."

With its emphasis on the structural and "attitudinal" obstacles to change, and the need to publicize the gospel of "wealth creation", large parts of the CBI's document would find a cosy niche in any current ministerial speech. This partly reflects the fact that, after the coolness of the middle Thatcher years, the CBI has achieved much warmer and close links with the Government in the last 12 months and has played an important part in the formulation of the Government's new youth employment and training schemes. It would be easy on that account to write off its worries about unemployment as simply fears that Mrs Thatcher may lose the next election.



For many companies this may well be the limit to their concern. It would be a mistake, however, to ignore the genuine concern in many British boardrooms – outside the CBI as much as inside – about how industry should be consolidating the painful recovery of the last four years. This time of the year is the annual "results season" when most big companies produce their profits figures for the previous year. The figures have underlined how, for much although by no means all of industry, 1984 was a year marked by further significant growth in profitability.

Some companies have had not just good but record years. ICI and BAT Industries have become the first non-oil companies to make more than £1,000 million profits in a year, although companies in the motor and construction industries have remained depressed. Equally significant, the profits revival of the last three years has combined with cost-savings from redundancies and plant closures to produce a marked improvement in industry's financial strength.

Many companies' now have sizeable amounts of cash in their balance sheets. Between them BP, Shell and ICI, for example, now have over £6,000 million of cash in their coffers, and this improved liquidity is a feature of many smaller and medium-sized companies as well. Financial strength is all the more marked because it has continued, despite record levels of new investment by the private sector.

Investment in manufacturing industry was up by 17 per cent in the last year, and companies are spending sizeable amounts on research and development and in training, as well as on plant and machinery. The bill for training will inevitably grow, since industry is having to pick up the bulk of the cost of the expanded Youth Training Scheme announced in the Budget.

The problem facing the Government and industry is how to sell the fundamental importance of profitability if the unemployment totals fail to fall despite this investment.

The large profit increases of the last year, coupled with some hefty pay rises for some company chairmen and directors are – however misunderstood – unlikely to do much to reverse the trend in the short term. Neither can the argument over GEC's accumulated cash reserves can be said to have gone industry's way when Lord Weinstock's policy of carefully husbanding his financial resources is openly criticized by a member of the Cabinet, Mr Nicholas Edwards, the Welsh Secretary. While privatization and wider share ownership may have begun to chip away at popular attitudes to wealth creation, it will be several years before they achieve the fundamental cultural shift that the CBI considers necessary.

It adds up to a major challenge, both of performance and of presentation. It is no coincidence that some of the bigger manufacturing companies, having put their own houses more or less in order with the painful retrenchment of the early 1980s, are now turning their attention to broader social obligations. The problem for manufacturing industry is particularly acute, since it is there that there is least chance of any significant reversal of the unemployment trend.

The CBI's own experience is that increasing numbers of its members, particularly in the North, feel that companies need to make a positive attempt to help those out of work, rather than leave the job to government. The same message was evident last year in the choice of motions for the CBI's annual conference. Whether this is more than a sudden attack of conscience remains to be seen.

Ronald Butt

What Hattersley's budget left out

There is no doubt about it; the Labour Party has assumed a more politically credible demeanour since the general election, and now that the embarrassment caused it by the miner's strike is over it is beginning to reap a modest reward. Several opinion polls have recently found that Labour is neck-and-neck with the Tories, and if anything slightly ahead. By soft-pedalling the clash between the left and the moderates which did the party so much harm at the last election, Labour has become better-placed to benefit from the Government's difficulties over unemployment.

Labour has also been helped by appearing to have jettisoned the wilder economic intentions which harmed it in 1983, when Mr Peter Shore's plans for massive public spending and borrowing, extended public ownership and close control of the private sector in an unambiguously socialist economy gave invaluable hostages to the Tories.

By skilful political prestidigitation Mr Roy Hattersley, the current shadow chancellor, has given the impression of showing a new sense of responsibility. He has expressed a wish to move away from the party's unrealistic policies of the last election, which he has described as "damagingly opaque". At the last party conference he even voiced anxiety lest Labour, if it did not actually lose the next election, might follow the Mitterrand government's experience of "two years of unreality" followed by "two years of deflation and despair for our members".

On the other hand he was also insisting that having lost one election, the party could not simply write a brand new policy for the next. All his endeavours have therefore been concentrated on seeming to be realistic without breaking with the past.

His response to this year's Budget has been deliberately designed to sound a note of realism. His alternative to Mr Lawson's planned reduction of the public sector borrowing requirement to £7 billion is that the PSBR should be kept at its present actual level. This, he argues, with the further benefit of fiscal adjustments and the scope the Chancellor had for tax remissions, would make an extra £5 billion available for national investment on roads, sewers, hospitals and the like, to boost jobs, and for increased social benefits.

As anyone who supports Lawson's caution would see it, this would be to risk inflation without any commensurate prospect of job creation. Even so, it is not the wildest of spending programmes. Indeed, it is not much wilder than the Alliance's proposals, or even those of some of the wetter Tories. But, of course, there would be more to a Labour economic policy than that.

For one thing, Labour has never abandoned its commitments to renationalizing companies such as British Telecom, and for extending public ownership into new areas. Its commitment to massive spending on the social services and infrastructure greatly transcend the modest proposals Hattersley makes for this year. But much more seriously and specifically, he has not abandoned Shore's intention of forcibly directing the money of private institutions (pension and insurance funds among them) wherever it suits the government.

Mr Hattersley has simply refurbished the old idea. As he announced in a Fabian Society speech in January, Labour's method of trying to engineer growth would be to force those institutions which have more than a certain amount of money invested abroad to bring it home, and lodge a "high proportion" of it with the National Investment Bank which Labour would set up. The NIB would then offer low interest investment to the "trading sector" and act as an instrument of the government's industrial policy, with the government subsidizing the rate of interest at below the market level.

In other words, a Labour government would force investment money into channels into which it would not flow on a commercial basis, prefering bureaucratic judgement. The price for this use of capital would be paid by the beneficiaries of the pension, insurance and other funds, and it is hard to doubt that a massive collapse of financial confidence would result.

The impact of trying to enforce the repatriation of overseas money, which Hattersley puts at £20 billion to date, would be profound. As a realist he recognizes that the old form of exchange controls, abolished by the present Government, cannot be restored; to attempt it would simply precipitate an outflow. So he intends to make it come back by depriving institutions with larger overseas investments of tax exemptions and fiscal privileges, on the assumption that they will choose to bring their money back home.

But will they? Will they prefer to return it to Hattersley's Britain for the sake of marginal tax advantages? Will firms which have invested in plant and factories overseas also be required to repatriate investment – and who could believe that they would think it sensible to do so? Mr Hattersley intends to exact a price "so large that few of them will wish either to retain their present level of overseas holdings or to export additional capital". But I suspect that whatever his price, many may think it worth paying.

For what would be the economic shape of Britain to which they would return the money? It will be an economy of import controls, penal taxation and, of course, the incomes policy (by any other name) to which Hattersley is also committed.

All this, of course, was understood when Shore's proposals were put under the microscope. But Hattersley has achieved the amazing feat of suggesting that now it would be different. He does it by shifting from statements of financial responsibility and lucidity to the old unrealistic committments and back again with the speed of light. He is engaged on the age-old task of Labour leaders who have to try to square circles.

If he succeeded and won power, at best we should have the two years of unreality followed by two years of deflation. But there is another danger. Beneath the surface, the grip of the left remains such that I doubt whether it would tolerate another retreat to the IMF. Unless the party broke, it might be driven to an irreversible socialist siege economy. Mr Hattersley does not have many cohorts to guard against that.

***moreover*... Miles Kington**

Sillies: Sure Ideas for Loot

Why do the Americans like giving sections of their society silly names like preppies, yumpies (young, upwardly mobile professionals) and JAPs (Jewish American Princesses)? Simple. So that they can make a fortune by writing guide books, joke books and cook books about them. Britain has made an attempt to emulate them with Sloanes and naff people, but America as always is the trendsetter.

In fact, if any of my readers would like to make a quick fortune writing a book about one of this year's new groups (I would, but I'm busy this weekend) here is a quick checklist of some of the more fashionable and trend-setting clans to have emerged in the last month or two.

Rummies, first of all, are relatively upwardly mobile professionals. In other words, they are moving up in the world, but not as fast as yumpies, so they seem to be moving slower – in fact by Einstein's law of relativity, or if not his then someone else's law of relativity, they actually seem to be moving down because the people around them are moving faster. They are getting richer and feeling poorer.

Closely related to the Rummies are the Dummies, who are downwardly *and* upwardly *mobile*. A typical Dummy is a man who wakes up as the head of a prosperous bank in Chicago. By midday the bank has collapsed, his wife has divorced him and he has been thrown out of his tennis club. By evening his lawyer has successfully sued everyone concerned for $13million and he is rich again.

A new rural phenomenon is the Daffies, who are Downwardly Avalanching Farmers. It would be nice to say they were downwardly mobile, but they are going down too fast to be called *mobile*. Quite why so many of America's farmers are going bankrupt is beyond the scope of this article, and certainly beyond President Reagan's comprehension, but they are the modern equivalent of the Wall Street tycoons who supposedly threw themselves off big buildings in 1929, with the difference that throwing yourself off a tractor is seldom fatal.

Reppies are, of course, Rapidly Exiting Politicians. Everyone of any significance in President Reagan's successful team has resigned since his election, to get good well-paid jobs while Reagan's reputation is still high. Quite who is running the government now is unclear; I'd suggest it was the Mafia, except that they have all been put inside and become Sammies (Suddenly Arrested Mafiosi).

Nobody has quite yet replaced the JAPs, those rich young Jewish wives who are said to be so conscious of their appearance that to them natural childbirth means having a baby without wearing make-up. Personally, I'd be ready to put a few bob on the HAPs, the Hispanic American Princesses, except that there aren't any yet. Meanwhile HAP could well stand for Harrods American purchasers, those bargain-hunters who are arriving in such numbers that Harrods has already started the construction of an airport terminal actually in the shop.

The people I feel sorriest for are the Wallies, or Woody Allen Look-alikes. America is apparently riddled with small men in glasses and gingery receding hair who so resemble the great man that people come up to them in the street and challenge them to be funny. Their tragedy is that they cannot think of anything funny, so they generally get beaten up.

If they were at school, this would lead to them developing a sense of humour for self-protection and eventually going on to be star comedians, but as they are already grown-up it is too late. People who do not resemble Woody Allen at all can generally become Potties, or People who are On Talking Terms with Woody Allen.

The newest group, finally, is that known as the Gummies or geographically upwardly mobile muggers. New York is becoming so hard for muggers to operate in – generally your victim has been mugged earlier in the evening and has no money on him – that they are now moving out of the city. I know a man who was recently mugged *in an aeroplane on the way to New York*. Anyway, one of these groups should make a profitable book for you.

If you like, I'll give you the address of a good Grabby.

A get-rich book-broker, of course.

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Obscure road to Bristol and London

The aim of *The Times* crossword puzzle is primarily to amuse. The job of the annual Eliminator puzzle is less innocent, being to reduce by about half the number of competitors who successfully solved the qualifying puzzle for this year's Collins Dictionaries Times Crossword Championship.

The nightmare of every crossword editor is that it will fail to do its job properly and leave unscathed more competitors than we have room for at the regional finals. Rather than face having to set another eliminator at short notice, therefore, one tends to make the first one as cryptic ("secret, enigmatic, occult, obscure in meaning" say the dictionaries) as possible: hence the need for this explanation of the clues to puzzle no 16,691 which appeared on Thursday, March 21.

Solvers (wholly or partly successful) who have qualified for the Bristol and London regional finals will be informed as soon as the checking of the entries has been completed.

Suresh Karadia



Across. 1 **TRANSCRIBE:** to turn is to translate or transcribe, and outlines are the forms of words in shorthand. 6 **LIMB:** a mischievous child, or limb of Satan; LIMBO is the borderland of hell, minus 0 (love). 9 **CAME/R/LINGO:** the Pope's chamberlain and financial secretary. 10 **DAHL:** the French novelist STENDHAL loses his STEN gun. 12 **AMENTIFEROUS:** bearing catkins, AMENT being a catkin – hence cat family; IF U (pronounced "you") are in EROS, or love. 15 **AMENTHOP,** Egyptian pharaoh; anagram of PHAETON round ("as carriage for") ME (abbreviation for State of Maine). 17 **ABHOR(SON)** is the executioner in *Measure for Measure* who speaks of his occupation as a mystery. 18 **LUPIN,** or William, son of Mr Pooter in *The Diary of a Nobody* and Mrs Lupin, landlady of the Blue Dragon in *Martin Chuzzlewit*. 19 **ARROGATED:** Cockney pronunciation of Arrogate + D (dead). 20 **RAISE ONE'S HAT:** anag. ANESTHESIA OR. 24 Nicholas **OTTO,** German engineer who devised the four-stroke petrol engine which uses the Otto Cycle. 25 **LACHRYMOSE:** *In Alice Through the Looking-Glass* the Walrus (Morse) wept like anything to see such quantities of sand. 26 **HERO,** the daughter of Leonato, one of the principal characters in *Much Ado About Nothing*. 27 **IDEOGRAPHY,** in which the idea of a thing is expressed but not the sounds of its name.

Down 1 **TACE:** Under the heading "Tace is Latin for candle", *Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase & Fable* says: "Tace is Latin for 'be silent', and candle is symbolical of light. The phrase means "keep it dark", do not throw light upon it". (The saying is quoted in Fielding's *Amelia*). 2 **ALMA** is a dancing girl who is "embraced by" Sir Lawrence (ALMA) – Tadema, R.A. 3 **SCRIMSHANKER:** Scrim is a fabric used for curtains, and a golfer who mishits the ball with the heel of the club is a SHANKER. 4 **REIGN(ITE).** 5 **BIG DIPPER:** Rock or Gib(raltar) climbing (ie, upside down) = BIG, DIPPER is a nickname for a Baptist, and the whole is a fairground ride. 7 **ISH–BOSHETH,** the Son of Saul (II Samuel 2.8) whom he succeeded as King of Israel; BOSH in anag of THIS HE. 8 **BALUSTRADE:** anag of LEAR, SAD BUT. 9a **PENANG–LAWYER** is a walking stick made from the stem of a prickly dwarf palm. (A PENANG–LAWYER features in the opening chapter of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*). 13 **LALLA ROOKH,** an Oriental Romance by Thomas More; she was the daughter of the Emperor Aurungzebe; HALLAL, meat killed according to Muslim law, is reversed ("rising") outside ROOK = castle (chess). 14 **DEEP LITTER,** method of rearing fowls on bed of peat. 16 **TRAINBAND:** Cowper's John Gilpin ("I am a linen-draper bold") captained one of these companies of English militia. 21 **SCHMO,** a stupid or boring person (Yiddish); Louis Armstrong, the jazz trumpeter, nicknamed S(AT)CHMO. 22 **LOOP** the loop. 23 **DEMY,** a scholar of Magdalen College, Oxford.

John Grant
Crossword Editor

هكذا من الاصل

TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
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GREEK DEMOCRACY

The Greek parliament meets tomorrow for its third, and decisive, attempt to choose a successor to President Constantine Karamanlis, who resigned on March 10. As on the first two ballots, there is only one candidate. Judge Christos Sartzetakis, supported by the governing Panhellenic Socialist Movement ("Pasok"). On the first two ballots, where he needed the votes of 200 out of the 300 Greek MPs to secure election, Mr Sartzetakis won 178 and 181 votes respectively. This time 180 will be enough but, if he falls short of it, parliament must be dissolved within ten days and new elections held within another 30 – probably on Sunday May 5.

Clearly the odds are in Mr Sartzetakis's favour, but the methods being used to ensure his election are distasteful, not to say alarming in a Nato country, belonging to the European Community, which was rescued from military dictatorship little more than ten years ago.

The ballot is supposed to be secret. That is relatively easy to organize when there is more than one candidate but becomes more difficult if the opposition decides not take part in the vote at all. The latter tactic, which is contrary to the spirit if not the letter of the constitution, was adopted by Pasok in 1980 when they were in opposition and almost succeeded in blocking the election of President Karamanlis. Now the New Democracy party founded by Mr Karamanlis has resorted to it in its turn.

The effect of such a move is one-sided in as much as it allows the non-voting party to know if any of its members have broken ranks but does not stop dissident members of the voting party from casting blank or spoiled votes without being identified. This happened on the first ballot when Mr Sartzetakis received two fewer votes than, according to Pasok calculations, he should have. To prevent it happening again on the second ballot Pasok resorted to methods which effectively made it no longer secret at all. They issued a brightly coloured ballot paper for their candidate - easily distinguishable from the blank paper signifying abstention: they made their members sit in a special order corresponding to that in which their names were called out, so that their votes could be carefully monitored; ministers fanned out through the chamber to keep an eye on those members regarded as doubtful; and, to make quite sure, Pasok members were asked to leave their unused blank papers on their desks as evidence that they had voted properly.

Hoping to avoid the repetition of such humiliating scenes on the third ballot, the New Democracy leader, Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, proposed that members should be allowed to vote behind a screen and said that if this were done his party would take part in the vote. This highly reasonable proposal, which would have restored the secrecy required by the constitution, was rejected by the governing party as "an insult to parliament".(!)

One wonders what Mr Sartzetakis himself – a hitherto apolitical and inconspicuous supreme court judge who is widely respected for the integrity and courage with which, as a junior magistrate, he investigated the notorious Lambrakis case in the 1960s – must think of all this. Is it the kind of democracy over which he wishes to preside? Does he expect, after being forced down the throat of parliament in this manner – to command the respect and allegiance of all Greeks irrespective of party, as a constitutional head of state should? He would greatly improve the chances of that if he were himself to announce today that he would not accept election unless tomorrow's ballot is genuinely secret, as the constitution provides.

In so doing he would demonstrate suitability for the office, by showing that he is capable of upholding the constitution even against his own supporters. The argument could then be diverted away from the person of the head of state on to the issue of his powers, which the Government proposes drastically to reduce, depriving him of the right to dissolve parliament and to call referenda on his own initiative.

The Government's argument is that such powers are not normally invested in a head of state elected only by an assembly of three hundred people: they are more appropriate to countries with a semi-presidential system, such as France, where the president is directly elected by the people. In parliamentary democracies it is normal for the option of appealing to the country to lie with the Government – as it does, for instance in Britain. Thus the contention of the Greek opposition that these amendments would in themselves, if adopted, spell the end of democracy seems exaggerated.

No doubt it is exaggerated, but it has to be understood in the context of the overall record of the Pasok Government, in which the blatant sabotage of the secret ballot for the presidential election is only the latest item. Ever since Pasok came to power in 1981, it has given priority to gaining control of all the processes of decision in Greece, rather than to the implementation of a specific economic and social programme. In part this may have been an understandable preoccupation for a left-wing party coming to power after 3½ decades of conservative rule, some democratic some not, which had left the country with an administration firmly oriented to the right. But, at least as interpreted by some influential groups within the party, it has gone rather far. Not only has there been a wholesale purge of actually or potentially recalcitrant civil servants. Provincial governors ("nomarchs") have been replaced by party nominees, and many other institutions – farmers' organizations and cooperatives, a large part of the import-export trade, large industrial units on the pretext of overindebtedness, hospitals, universities, to a very large extent the judiciary, the police and at least the senior commanders of the armed forces – have been brought under Pasok control.

Radio and television are government-controlled, and the largest circulation newspapers are also broadly favourable to the Government, though the most successful of all – *Ethnos* – is actually more favourable to the Communist Party than to Pasok and is now being prosecuted for tapping the telephone of a *New York Times* correspondent who exposed it as a Soviet-financed front operation.

None of this amounts to suppression of democracy, and there is as yet no reason to think that the elections, which must be held at latest by October, will not be a free and fair test of the Government's support. It is ironically even possible that the Government may have helped itself electorally by diverting attention away from its very meagre economic achievements on to a somewhat artificial constitutional crisis. But there are elements within the ruling party which show authoritarian if not totalitarian instincts, and the prime minister himself, while not necessarily to be counted among those elements, has been so erratic and unpredictable in his pronouncements that few can feel fully confident that he would hold them in check, once not himself held in check by a strong head of state armed with considerable constitutional powers. It is not so much his decision to oppose a second mandate for President Karamanalis that causes anxiety, nor even his desire to amend the constitution, so much as the fact that these moves were sprung on the country without warning, after a long period during which he publicly claimed to value Mr Karamalis's role as a guarantor of constitutional order.

One of the things that Mr Karamanlis himself takes credit for is having restrained Mr Papandreou from making radical changes in Greek foreign policy, such as leaving Nato and the European Community, which his previous programme and even his recent rhetoric commit him to in theory. In fact the attitude of the President cannot have been the only consideration. Mr Papandreou knows well that Greece, if it cut loose from the West would face acute debt problems and would also be much more exposed to the danger of serious conflict with Turkey. There is as yet insufficient evidence to think that he will change his policy in these respects any more than that he would deliberately suppress a democracy which both he and his father have spent their lives defending. But his behaviour has become so unpredictable that one cannot feel quite as confident on any of these points as one would wish.

LOST CAUSE OF THE LOST DEPOSIT

It is difficult not to feel a lingering dissatisfaction over the Bill dealing with the conduct of elections, which enters its committee stage in the Lords today, having already passed through the Commons. It has been debated in a fitting spirit of bipartisanship, with compromises made on both sides, generally for the better. There is still room for some misgivings that its relaxation of restrictions on postal and proxy voting may open the way to an unacceptable level of malpractice in Northern Ireland (where such devices are endemic and ingenious), and perhaps also elsewhere.

The main feelings of missed opportunity lie over that part of the Bill which deals with election deposits. Unfortunately there is no agreement on whether the opportunity missed is that of abolishing this financial obstacle to those wishing to put their point of view to the electors, or of raising it to a level which would finally exclude the frivolous, crazy and mercenary candidates who have tried to turn so many recent by-elections into a circus. MPs were elected without need of deposits until 1916, but it is widely accepted that some sort of bar is indispensable in modern conditions, if only to deter hucksters from using the privilege of free postage (worth some £8,000 today) for free advertising – and to reduce the tendency for disputes about broadcasting coverage to make broadcasting coverage effectively impossible.

The most widely canvassed alternative to a money deposit is to require candidates to produce a list of a hundred or more signatures at nomination, instead of ten, as at present. But this would scarcely be an effective obstacle to the mercenary candidate, who could easily hire people to collect signatures (which would certainly be forthcoming in a vague spirit of fair play). The labour of checking signatures against the electoral roll, whether routinely or only on challenge, would hugely increase the returning officer's task, and add to the risk of disqualification through innocent error.

Some minority parties have proposed a dual level of deposit, with a lower rate for candidates willing to forgo the perk of free mail (which participants with small resources are unable to take full advantage of in any case). This has attractions but the idea of two species of candidates officially labelled serious and marginal, is an uncomfortable one. Proposals to allow the returning officer to register eccentric party labels simply as "Independent" would scarcely inhibit the fun in the actual campaign.

Compromises during the Bill's passage have reduced the proposed deposit from £1,000 to £500 (index-linked by the uncertain mechanism of affirmative Commons resolution), and lowered the threshold of forfeiture from one-eighth of votes cast to one-twentieth. These are improvements (and it may be noted that today's £500 is worth no more than the £150 of the early 1970s). But the result is a deposit small enough to be no great disincentive to self-publicists or eccentrics standing in one seat, but big enough to be a very real one to minority parties seeking to mount a challenge in a number of areas.

It is true that the main purpose of elections is to choose a member, and that no candidate unable to secure even a twentieth of the vote has any hope of winning. But an election is also a public forum for promoting ideas and publicly registering their support, and it is a matter for unease if serious minority views, held perhaps by many voters over the country as a whole, are excluded from the contest by an artificial financial obstacle. The scheme provided in the Bill is only acceptable because nobody has been able to think of anything better.

Causes of decline

From Dr Michael Ball

Sir, The prospects for British graduate engineers are likely to remain bleak whilst industry views engineering as a skilled trade rather than a profession.

Two young men of my acquaintance were were fortunate in obtaining sponsorships from an engineering company, and scholarships, to read engineering science, one at Oxford, the other at Cambridge.

That they were required to sign indentures, like nineteenth-century apprentices, was surprising, but the sight of middle-aged PhDs contentedly clocking in to work on the factory floor proved too much.

On graduating last year, they abandoned engineering to pursue successful and stimulating careers in the City and in publishing, among their peers.

Dare one suggest that the old school of engineers does not really wish to change the system with which it is familiar?

Yours faithfully,
M. J. BALL,
1 Manor Drive, Chesham Bois,
Buckinghamshire.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cuckoo calls and fault-finding

From Professor J. K. Hyde

Sir, Mrs Thatcher's reported remarks (March 25) to the Conservative Central Council at Newcastle mark a further stage in the insidious politicization of the institutions of this country. Not only is it suggested that dons are under some kind of obligation to instil supply-side ethics whether they believe in them or not, but it is also clearly stated that churchmen of the Established Church who criticize Government policies are cuckoos, that is, guilty of extreme ingratitude.

So, just as the view has recently been promoted that Civil Servants owe their ultimate loyalty to the Government of the day rather than to the Crown, the Prime Minister now implies that the bishops owe their office to herself and her ministers rather than to the Queen.

To suggest that the bishops do not enjoy the freedom of speech which is the birthright of everyone but should trim their words to the susceptibilities of a temporarily dominant faction within a particular party is to incite them to disloyalty to their consciences and to God. Can arrogance be carried any further?

Yours faithfully,
J. K. HYDE,
University of Manchester,
Department of History,
Oxford Road,
Manchester.
March 24.

From the Reverend Nicholas Coulton

Sir, Is the Prime Minister aware that her likening of bishops to cuckoos was paralleled long ago when, upon a wall of the catacombs, someone drew an ass's head on a crucifix and added the words "Alexamenos worships his God"?

Ridicule did not then deter Christians from the truth. It is hardly likely to do so now.

And did her Methodist Sunday school take her beyond cuckoos to that interesting Old Testament creature, the scapegoat? If so, she may know whether her ridiculing of such easy targets as bishops and dons is really meant to distract public attention from the many distinguished politicians, even in her own party, who do not share her views.

But in case her natural history studies didn't get further than cuckoos, she may care to know that it is not the cuckoo that is mistaken, but the bird in whose nest its egg is laid . . . until that egg comes to hatching.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS COULTON,
St Paul's Vicarage,
12 The Embankment,
Bedford.
March 27.

From the Reverend Arthur Moss

Sir, The report of the first cuckoo of spring is always eagerly anticipated but less experienced bird-watchers frequently get it wrong, confusing the call of *Columba palumpus* for *Cuculus canorus*.

The good lady from Westminster, having heard several as widely apart as Canterbury, Liverpool and Durham, to mention but a few, as early in the year as February and March, might have had second thoughts and known that what she heard was the much rarer *Norum Testamentum*.

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR MOSS,
1 Withiel Drive,
Cannington,
Bridgwater,
Somerset.
March 25.

Pensions abuses

From Mr Alan Smallbone

Sir, Sir Brandon Rhys Williams (March 19) raises an interesting point concerning the abuse of pension funds' tax-exempt status to "park" surpluses. It is even nastier than he supposes.

In their evidence on "portable pensions" Legal & General Assurance Society correctly stated:

. . . The underlying funding rates for existing final-salary schemes increase with age. Thus the annual cost for an older employee is significantly greater than for a younger employee . . .

Most staff will have reached their ceilings of achievement by 50, but even if they thereafter receive no wage increases in real terms, they become an increasing pensions-cost burden.

Respectable employers make allowances for this, increasing their contributions to the pension fund in times of plenty to anticipate these future demands.

The first thing any successful takeover bidder does is to think of ways of declaring such staff redundant, thus making the pension scheme over-funded and releasing more money for the payment of increased dividends.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ALAN SMALLBONE,
30 Temple Fortune Lane, NW11.
March 19.

Judging directors' pay on merit

From Mr David Soskin

Sir, I was distressed to read Roger Opie's criticism (March 23) of Mr Harvey-Jones's recent pay rise.

Only in the UK is there a public outcry almost every time a senior industrialist receives a salary increase. Yet it is in the international, and not the national, job market that such skills are sought. By this measure Mr Harvey-Jones is still woefully underpaid. More importantly, it is on the talents of such individuals that our future economic prosperity depends.

It is thus sad to see that the politics of envy still finds voice in your columns. When I graduated from the Harvard Business School in 1979, 16 of the 21 British students in my class decided to remain in the USA.

Reading Mr Opie's infantile, outdated and misleading remarks, it is hardly any wonder that none of these fellow graduates, to my knowledge, shows the slightest sign of wishing to return to this country where viciously taxed business leaders are portrayed as overpaid and grasping, whilst pools and bingo winners – untouched by the Inland Revenue – are feted as national heroes.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SOSKIN,
71 New End,
Hampstead, NW3.
March 25.

From Dr David Freemantle

Sir, Your editorial of March 26 makes a valid point that those earning high pay should bear more risk.

In a harshly competitive world no person can expect to achieve high pay without risking his or her job to achieve high results.

The trouble with many people in Britain (including many managers) is that they want high pay at the same time as the comfort of job security. The two are incompatible.

Leadership can only be restored to British management when we develop a new breed of lean and hungry managers (I call them superbosses) who are prepared to become individually accountable for the risks they take and the decisions they make.

At that point of time no one will have a problem equating high pay with success.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID FREEMANTLE,
Handsworth House,
33 Brighton Road,
Crawley,
West Sussex.
March 26.

From Mr John Stokes, MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge (Conservative)

Sir, Your leader (March 26) criticizes the increases in pay of the chairman and directors of ICI, yet in the same issue there is an item of news from the Careers Advisory Service of St Andrews University headed "Graduates shun industry for more pay in banking".

One cannot easily increase the pay of staff in manufacturing industry (which is so essential for our national economic health) unless the pay of directors above them is also increased, otherwise the differentials will go. I suggest, therefore, one may possibly criticize the amount of this increase of the pay of ICI directors, but not the principle.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STOKES,
House of Commons.
March 26.

From Sir Colin Campbell

Sir, I am glad you have been ventilating in current circumstances the subject of directors' pay.

While in the long run market values should dictate these, in today's special circumstances restraint is certainly called for if we are to rebuild the export competitiveness of our manufacturing industries against the day when our oil revenues diminish.

The CBI has efficiently diagnosed the problem, but our wages have been and are continuing to grow faster than our main competitors without sufficient gains in productivity.

At a time when the Government is working to free the large number of constraints operating in the labour market (can we hope they will use the powers of the Monopolies Commission against the many monopoly suppliers of labour promoted by closed shops?) those of us near or at the top of the pile should show restraint as our contribution towards pricing as many as possible of those currently unemployed into jobs.

It is also vital to us that current public expenditure is held down. If there is an upward creep in private-sector wage settlements the implications will be adverse for us all, particularly in knock-on effects in the public sector.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN CAMPBELL,
Kilbryde Castle,
Dunblane,
Perthshire.
March 25.

From Mr Stroud Cornock

Sir, The captains of industry who so blatantly exploit their position for personal gain no doubt anticipated the sort of criticism expressed by Mr Opie and others (March 23). But these are times in which abstract notions of example and restraint are yielding to rougher principles.

We should not wonder that directors should follow the practical example offered by Parliament in recent years, as members of all parties have urged restraint while advancing their own pay from approximate parity with that of college lecturers to its present and considerably more generous levels.

Yours faithfully,
STROUD CORNOCK,
13 Lynwood Court,
Stoughton Road,
Leicester.
March 24.

Once in a blue moon

From Mr Merlyn Rees, MP for Morley and Leeds South (Labour)

Sir Mrs Olga Lockley, in her letter of March 22, related "one small example of the continuation of oral history" connected with Sheffield. I give another connected with the same city and its Radical MP, John Arthur Roebuck, who had entered Parliament in 1832 and had been chosen as one of the two members for the city in 1849.

Lord Briggs said of him in his *Victorian People*, published in 1954, that over the years he had "established a reputation of being one of the few members of Parliament who dared to use plain speech and who showed no fear of great persons, whether in the Cabinet or at the Court." To the background of incompetence in the Crimean War he describes how Roebuck became a "tribune of the people."

On January 23, 1855, "deeply moved by events in the Crimea and convinced that they "cried aloud for investigation", he asked the House of Commons to set up a select committee to inquire into the condition of the Army before Sebastopol. Roebuck, unlike several of the active critics of the Government, had no detailed knowledge of the Crimea or of the Near East. His fellow critic, Layard, was the excavator of Nineveh. Roebuck was merely the member for Sheffield. But his nickname was "Tear 'Em" and even as late as 1936 the phrase "Don't John Arthur Roebuck me", was still used in Sheffield if you felt that a person was getting the better of you, somewhat tendentiously, in a heated argument.

John Roebuck was remembered in the city he represented in Parliament nearly 100 years later. What an epitaph for an MP and one devised at that by the electorate who knew him away from the hothouse of Westminister.

Yours sincerely,
MERLYN REES,
House Commons,
March 25.

Resignation reason

From the Reverend Canon Paul Oestreicher

Sir, Lord Blake, reviewing the Mountbatten biography (March 14) and commenting on the First Sea Lord's opposition to Britain's attack on Egypt, says: "The professional head of the Navy cannot resign because the Government is waging a war of which he disagrees on moral and political grounds." Why then, if they *could* not have resigned as heads of Hitler's army, were Keitel and Jodl executed for, among other things, waging aggressive war?

Civilization and, in the future, possibly even human survival depend, to a considerable degree, on the moral rectitude of officers at every level, on their determination to resign rather than to obey an illegal or immoral order. The Nuremberg principle was right, provided it is not only forced on the vanquished by the victors.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL OESTREICHER,
50 Handen Road, SE12.

Honourable lordships

From Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes

Sir, Much as the reintroduction of hereditary peerages by the Prime Minister is to be applauded, I have never understood why the creation of new baronetcies has been neglected.

This device could be used to reward distinction on an hereditary basis, without the constitutional implications of seats in an Upper Chamber.

This is surely a better solution than the distribution of lordships of manors as suggested by your correspondent of March 21.

Yours faithfully,
C. GOODSON-WICKES,
95A Jermyn Street,
St James's, SW1.
March 22.

For art's sake

From the Director of The Fitzwilliam Museum

Sir, it seems desirable to remove from your Diary to your correspondence columns a question of public interest which may otherwise degenerate further into a slanging match.

At the Fitzwilliam we are all grateful to the executors of the late Sir Geoffrey Keynes for their stalwart efforts to promote the magnificently generous wish, stated by their father, that his Blake collection, on the Treasury's acceptance of it in lieu of capital tax liabilities, should be recommended for allocation to this museum. Our gratitude has been expressed both to Sir Geoffrey in his life and to his sons since his death.

There has been, however, no opportunity to express either public or private gratitude to the Minister for the Arts, in that "he has helped give Keynes's collection of Blakes and modern art (*sic*), worth around £200,000, to the Fitzwilliam". There have not been the usual announcements in Parliament, followed by the issue of a press notice, of the allocation of which I read the first time in your Diary (March 22).

We are indeed grateful that the careful wishes of the great Blake scholar have so far been respected, and among us not least another would-be benefactor whose wish is that his choice of related material should eventually supplement here the Keynes collection, as Keynes himself had encouraged him to wish.

If any confidence is to remain, or better still be built in the effective operation of the offering-in-lieu provisions, there needs to be consistently fair treatment of would-be benefactors to the nation and much more realistic book-keeping coverage available for the appropriate transactions.

If Lord Gowrie considers that the patriotic heirs of Arthur Bull have been treated quite fairly, and that their treatment has benefited the heritage without needlessly burdening the overstretched resources of art-minded charities and of public institutions working in combination, perhaps he will say so.

The in-lieu provisions were well conceived: but until they can be seen to work as they should, responsible directors of museums can hardly advise inquirers to embark on a hazardous and potentially costly course.

Yours, etc,
MICHAEL JAFFE, Director,
The Fitzwilliam Museum,
Cambridge.

In Lawrence's steps

From Captain J. M. G. Bowden

Sir, With reference to your article of March 19, "Britons relive desert legend of Lawrence", I wish to make my own position clear regarding the battle at Tafila.

During my visit to Tafila I was able to look at the ground over which the battle was fought and talk to the local people. If the opinion of the townsmen is to be believed the battle did not follow the course that Lawrence described and, this being the case, his account loses credibility. It has been suggested that Lawrence was not at the battle but, contrary to the statement attributed to me in your article, I do not hold with this view.

What I do question is the importance of Lawrence's role in the battle, which has long been the subject of debate. Whilst he suggests, in *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, that he was the driving force behind the Arab actions at Tafila, others claim that he was little more than an observer. Apparent inaccuracies in his factual description of the battle would cast doubt on his evaluation of his own part in it. I am therefore cautious in accepting his claims.

I can assure your readers that it was not the aim of our expedition to follow the popular trend by totally defaming a British hero.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES BOWDEN,
The Officers' Mess,
The Light Division Depot,
Sir John Moore Barracks,
Shrewsbury,
Shropshire.
March 22.

Air of mystery

From Mr C. E. Cassell

Sir, The most incongruous "no smoking" sign must surely be the one on a platform of Baker Street Underground station (Bakerloo line) where it is surrounded by hundreds of silhouettes of Sherlock Holmes smoking his pipe.

Yours faithfully,
C. E. CASSELL,
72 Maida Vale, W9.
March 22.

ON THIS DAY

MARCH 28 1925

The Standing Joint Committee on the Salaries of Elementary School Teachers first met in 1919; thereafter it adopted the name of its chairman Lord Burnham. Committees for further stages of education were later established. In 1922 education, in common with other services, had suffered from the economies inflicted by the "Geddes axe". The Times leader commenting on the article below asked, "Is the new scale higher than the old?" and found it difficult to give an answer.

PAY OF TEACHERS. LORD BURNHAM'S AWARD.

The award of Lord Burnham, as arbitrator on the question of salaries to be paid to teachers throughout the country after the end of this month, was announced yesterday. . .

Arbitration became necessary owing to the inability of the Standing Joint Committee to agree upon scales to be paid after March 31. During 1920 and 1921 standard scales, embodied in what was known as the Burnham Report, were set up and allotted to the different educational areas of the country in four divisions. For the period beginning April 1, 1922, a voluntary abatement of 5 per cent was made by the teachers in response to the request of the local education authorities. These scales cease to operate after the end of this month, and in the face of demands by the local authorities for a reduction and by the teachers for the payment of the scales in full it was resolved to submit the question to arbitration.

The award issued yesterday is in the nature of a compromise. In no instance is the full standard scale of 1920 restored but in the majority of cases the present salaries are slightly increased. . .

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RATES

MEN.

	Present rate		Award	
Scale	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
I.	165 15	308 15	168 0	312 0
II.	164 17	321 0	168 0	330 0
III.	175 7	361 0	180 0	360 0
IV.	190 0	401 13	192 0	408 0

WOMEN.

I.	152 6	217 0	150 0	246 0
II.	152 0	258 8	150 0	258 0
III.	161 10	288 16	162 0	288 0
IV.	175 5	321 0	180 0	324 0

. . . It also provided that no teacher's salary shall be reduced by the operation of the award, and that no teacher shall receive a salary in excess of the maximum of the appropriate scale - *i.e.*, that teachers will "mark time" until the new scale overtakes their existing salaries. The new scales will operate for six years, and after that will be subject to one year's notice to terminate them. In his recommendations to the Board of Education Lord Burnham suggests that the Board shall so adjust its grant that no local education authority shall gain financially by paying salaries on a basis lower than the appropriate standard scales and that handicraft teachers shall be graded for salary purposes as "certified assistant teachers not college trained." . . .

SECONDARY SCHOOL SCALES.

The secondary school scales have been revised on a similar principle. The minima are slightly increased, but progression to maxima is slower. Increments are £15 and £12 respectively for men and women graduates, and £12 and £9 respectively for non-graduates, but no increment is given until the end of the second year.

MEN.

	Present rate		Award	
Scale	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
Graduates (pre-war)	229 0	373 0	234 0	390 0
Do. (London)	254 10	422 10	258 0	528 0
Non-graduates (pre-war)	180 10	280 0	186 0	384 0
Do. (London)	190 10	327 10	204 0	432 0

WOMEN.

Graduates (pre-war)	193 17	288 0	210 0	384 0
Do. (London)	201 7	316 0	234 0	420 0
Non-graduates (pre-war)	168 17	234 0	174 0	306 0
Do. (London)	187 17	252 0	192 0	342 0

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 27: The Prince of Wales, Colonel, Welsh Guards, arrived at *Royal Air Force Northolt this* afternoon in an aircraft of The *Queen's Flight from the Federal* Republic of Germany.

Major Jack Stenhouse and Captain Simon Stephenson were in attendance.

The Princess of Wales, Patron, The Commonwealth Society for the Deaf, today attended a buffet luncheon given by the society at Fishmongers' Hall, London, EC4.

Mrs George West and Lieutenant-Commander Peter Eberle, *RN* were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 27: Princess Alice, Duchess of *Gloucester*, Deputy *Colonel-in-Chief*, 2nd Battalion, The Royal *Anglian Regiment*, this afternoon received Lieutenant Colonel J Browne on relinquishing his appointment as commander of the regiment and Major P Rawlins on assuming the appointment.

In the evening Her Royal *Highness, as president*, was present at a concert given by the Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London NW1.

Mrs Michael Harvey was in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester, patron, *Council for Education in World* Citizenship, this morning opened their annual conference 1985 at the University of London, Bedford Way, London WC1.

Lieutenant Colonel Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 27: The Duchess of Kent today visited British Aerospace, the Cancer *Help Centre and St Peter's* Lodge at Bristol.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Miss Sarah Partridge.

Queen Ingrid of Denmark celebrates her birthday today.

The Princess of Wales has succeeded Princess Alice Duchess of *Gloucester as President* of the Royal Academy of Music.

Princess Anne will open the new county primary school in Ledbury, Hereford and Worcester, on April 3.
The Prince of Wales will attend a dinner given by the Commonwealth Development Corporation at Fishmongers' *Hall on April 11 to mark* the retirement of Sir Peter *Meinertzhagen*.
The Queen will take the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst on April 12.
Princess Anne will attend the Northern Heritage Trust's reception at Blagdon, Seaton Burn, Newcastle upon Tyne on April 24.
The Queen will review her Queen's Scouts in the Quadrangle of Windsor Castle on April 28.
Princess Anne will attend the race meeting at Epsom on April 23 for the Farriers' Company Invitation Sweepstakes being ridden in aid of the Riding for the Disabled Association.
Princess Anne will open the new adult training centre and visit the hostel for the handicapped at Newton Stewart, Dumfries and Galloway, on April 25.
The Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel-in-Chief, *REME, will visit 23 Base* Workshop REME at Wetter, West Germany, on April 21 and 22.

A memorial service for Mr D. T. Muggeridge will be held today at noon at St Martin-in-the-Fields.

A memorial service for Mr Vincent Mulcaster *Allom* will be held at noon on Saturday, May 4th, in Eastbourne College Chapel.

Forthcoming marriages

MR R. I. Molson
and Miss *V. B. Cayzer*

The engagement is announced between Ian, third son of Mr William M. Molson, of Montreal, *Canada*, and Mrs *Mary* E. Hodgson, of Toronto, Canada, and Verena, youngest daughter of the Hon Anthony Cayzer and the late Hon Mrs Cayzer, of Great Westwood, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire.

Mr M. F. Ayton
and Miss E. G. Waller

The engagement is announced between Michael, youngest son of Mr and Mrs George Ayton, of Brighton, and Gay, only daughter of *Mr and Mrs Martin Waller*, of Ulting, Essex.

Mr J. P. B. Brewin
and Miss E. A. Gray

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Mr Paul Brewin and the late Mrs Mary (Pushy) Brewin, of Kingsettle Lodge, Shaftesbury, Dorset, and Elspeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs *Thomas F. Gray, of Southampton*, Bermuda.

Mr C. D. R. Collinge
and Miss S. D. *Hinde*

The engagement is announced *between David, elder son of Mr and* Mrs Mark Collinge, of Longridge, Lancashire, and Sara, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Hinde, of Wicklewood, Wymondham, Norfolk.

Mr S. R. Cox
and Miss V. V. T. Angelo-Thomson

The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of Major and Mrs V. L. Cox of Wimbledon, London, and Vanessa, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs W. T. A. Angelo-Thomson, of Aldbourne, Marlborough, Wiltshire.

Mr R. J. Hammon
and Miss L. Howard Baker

The engagement is announced between Russell, eldest son of the late Mr J. L. Hammon and of Mrs G. M. Shaw and stepson of Mr C. H. Shaw, of Tiverton, Devon, and *Louise*, daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Howard Baker, of St Ives, Cornwall.

Mr A. G. L. Hill-Smith
and Miss I. M. P. Knox

The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of His Honour Judge and Mrs D. E. Hill-Smith, of Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, and Isobel, daughter of the late Mr Geoffrey Knox and of Mrs Geoffrey Knox, of Wimbledon, *London*.

Mr J. Dick
and Miss B. Gates

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, elder son of Mr Peter Dick and the late Diana Dick, of Virginia Water, Surrey, and Bridget, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Gates, of Williamscott, Oxfordshire.

Mr T. J. Reid
and Miss V. J. Turvill

The engagement is announced between Timothy James, younger son of Mr and Mrs A. M. Reid, of Skelmorlie, Ayrshire, and Vanessa Jane, daughter of Commander and Mrs A. D. Turvill, of Furland, Crewkerne, Somerset.

Mr A. N. M. Richards
and Miss C. M. *Goldsmith*

The engagement is announced between Adrian, second son of Mr and Mrs P. P. Richards, of *Birmingham*, and Charlotte, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs B. M. Goldsmith, of Guildford, Surrey.

Mr M. J. Robbins
and Miss S. L. Cox

The engagement is announced between *Michael John*, son of the late Mr F. H. Robbins and Mrs G. E. F. *Robbins*, of *Langton Matravers*, Dorset, and Sarah Lamorna, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs D. K. W. Cox, of Drewsteignton, Devon.

Mr M. V. Stanbury
and Miss A. J. Callum

The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of Mr and Mrs R. V. M. Stanbury, of Peasmarsh, East Sussex, and Alison, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs W. D. Callum, of Dene Park, Tonbridge, Kent.

Mr P. J. Wiltshire
and Miss J. M. Gray

The engagement is announced between Peter John, son of Mr Anthony Wiltshire and Mrs Francis Wiltshire, of Hereford, and Jacqueline Mary, only daughter of Mrs *Patricia Gray* and the late James Gray, of Pilton, Northamptonshire.

Marriage

Mr B. H. D. MacDermott
and Miss G. M. Gallwey

The marriage took place on Saturday, March 23, at the Church of the Holy Cross, Tramore, co *Waterford between Mr Brian Hugh* MacDermot and Miss Georgina Gallwey.

The bride was given away by her father Mr Dayrell Gallwey and Mr Alexis Andrews was best man.

A reception was held at Rockfield House, Tramore, and a further reception was held on March 25 at *the Honourable Artillery Company* in London. The honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Luncheons

East European Trade Council
Lord Shackleton, chairman, presided at a luncheon given by the East European Trade Council at the Café Royal yesterday in honour of Mr G. Pirinski, Bulgarian Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade, on the occasion of the thirteenth meeting of the UK/Bulgarian Joint Commission. The Bulgarian Ambassador was among those present.

Chest, Heart and Stroke Association
Lord Smith was appointed chairman of the Chest, Heart and Stroke Association at a meeting of the council held BMA House, yesterday. A presentation was made to Sir Ernest Sidey on his retirement as director general. The following were present at a luncheon held afterwards:
Lady Hamilton, Dame Anne Bryans, Sir John Crofton, Sir Eric Cheadle, Dr Richard Emmanuel, Dr J R Bignal, Mr W F Archer, Mr Peter Graham, Mr J D Barrett, *Professor T J H Clark*, Mr Andrew Cruickshank, Dr N W Horne, Professor Bernard Isaacs, Mr Robert Knight, Dr Roger Lowry, Mr T M Meyer, Dr I M Pollock, Dr *N Lloyd Rusby*, Mr C D Shaw, Mr M R Simmonds, Mr G Alan Wood and Sir David Atkinson (director general).

Dinners

Speaker
The Speaker and Mrs Weatherill gave a dinner in Speaker's House yesterday. Those present were:
Mr John Morris, QC, MP, and Mrs Morris, Mr Jack Aspinwall, MP, and Mrs Aspinwall, Mr Keith Best, MP, Mr Bernard Conlan, MP, Mr Den Dover, MP, and Mrs Dover, Mr George Gardiner, MP, and Mrs Gardiner, Mr John Gladding, MP, and Mrs Gladding, Mr Barry Henderson, MP, and Mrs Henderson, Mr David Mellor, MP, and Mrs Mellor, Mr Christopher Murphy, MP, and Mrs Murphy, Mr James Nicholson, MP, and Mrs Nicholson, Mr Richard Ottaway, MP, and Mrs Ottaway, Mr Marcus Plantagenet, MP, Mr Max Robinson, MP, and Mrs Robinson, Mr Andrew Rowe, MP, and Mrs Rowe, Mr Brian Sedgemore, MP, and Mrs Sedgemore, the Rev Martin Smyth, MP, Mr and Mrs David Holland and Mr and Mrs Kang Tan.

Westminster Dining Club
Mrs Elizabeth Peacock, MP, and Mrs Angela Rumbold, MP, were the hosts at a dinner held by the Westminster Dining Club at the House of Commons yesterday. The guests included: Mr Robert Dunn, MP, Mr Alex Fletcher, MP, Mr *John Mackay*, MP and Mr Nicholas Scott, MP.

United and Cecil Club
The United and Cecil Club dined in the House of Commons yesterday. The guest of honour and speaker was the *Lord President*, Viscount Whitelaw, CH. Viscount *Macmillan of Ovenden*, vice-chairman of the club, presided and Mr Roger Sims, MP, also spoke.

Royal Society of St George
The City of London branch of the Royal Society of St George held a council dinner at Armourers' *Hall* last night. Mr Brian P. Boreham, *accompanied* by Mrs Boreham, was in the chair and the other speakers were Mr Deputy Bernard Morgan, president, who proposed the toast to England, Mr Graham Redcliffe, Mr John Reid, Mr John Minshull-Fogg and the Rev Basil Watson. Among those present were:
Judge Sir William Stabb, QC, and Lady Stabb, Admiral Sir Raymond Lygo, Sir Robin and Lady Gillett, Sir William and Lady Woolf Harris, Mr and Mrs Leslie Prince, Mr and Mrs George Gibbs, Mr and Mrs Harry Anderson, Mr and Mrs Charles Coward, Alderman and Mrs Hugh Bidwell, Mr and Mrs Martin Barber, Mr Deputy and Mrs Winsburn Horlock, Mr and Mrs Derek *Kemp and Mr and Mrs Jack Neary*.

Edmonton Petty Sessional Division
The annual dinner of the justices of Edmonton Petty Sessional Division was held last night at Selborne Hall, Southgate. Mr Samuel Kershen, chairman of the division, presided and responded to the toast to the division proposed by Sir Huw Wheldon. Dr Douglas Acres, Chairman of the Magistrates' Association, responded to the toast of the guests proposed by Mrs Jane Apthorp.
Others present included: The High Commissioner of Malta and Mrs Cassar, Baroness Macleod of Borve, Lady Beatrix Eyrton, Judge Trapnell, Judge and Mrs McMullan, Judge Cooke, Judge and Mrs Kridler, Commander and Mrs James Dickinson, Mrs Mary Whitehouse, Miss Wendy Craig, Mrs Joan Acres, Mr Geoffrey Norman and Mrs Beverley Atkins.

Royal Institute of British Architects
The President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Mr Michael Manser, and Mrs Manser gave a dinner party at the Institute on March 26. Those present were:
Mr and Mrs Alan Bowness, Ms Margaret Drabble, Mr Michael Holroyd, Mr and Mrs Stuart Lipton, Mr and Mrs Larry Rolland, Sir John and Lady Tooley and Mr and Mrs Patrick Harrison.

Service Dinner

Royal Artillery Officers of the Royal Artillery and their ladies held their spring dinner in the Royal Artillery Mess, Woolwich, last night. General Sir John Gibbon presided and principal *guests included:*
Lady (John) Sharpe, the Dean of Belfast, Lieutenant-General Sir Charles and Lady Huxtable, Lieutenant-General Sir John and Lady Akehurst, Sir James and Lady Blyth and Major-General and Mrs J A C G Eyre.



Archbishop *Bruno Heim*, Papal Pro-Nuncio (left), the Earl of Erroll (centre) and the Rev J. Neville Thomas after the memorial service yesterday. (Photograph Chris Harris).

Memorial Services

***Sir Iain Moncreiffe of that Ilk*, QC**

A memorial service for Sir Iain *Moncreiffe of that Ilk*, QC, was held yesterday in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks. The Rev J. Neville Thomas officiated and the Rev David Johnson also took part. The Earl of Erroll and the Hon Peregrine Moncreiffe of that Ilk, sons, read the lessons, Sir Fitzroy Maclean of Dunconnel gave an address. Lord Home of the Hirsel was represented by the Earl of Selkirk, QC. Others present included:

Lady Moncreiffe of that Ilk (widow), Lady Alexandra Hay (daughter), the Countess of Erroll (daughter-in-law), Ivar Wigan (grandson) and other members of the *family*.

The Duke of Norfolk (Earl Marshal) with Mr D H B Chesshyre (Chester Herald), Mr T D Mathew (Windsor Herald), Mr M Maclagan (Richmond Herald) also representing the Heraldry Society), Mr P Dickinson (Rouge Dragon Pursuivant) also representing the Ancestor Trust), Mr P S Spurrier (Portcullis Pursuivant), Mr T D McCarthy (Bluemantle Pursuivant), Mr R O Dennys (Arrundel Herald of Arms Extraordinary) also representing the Garter King of Arms), Mr J I D Pottinger (Islay Herald), Mr P Drummond-Murray of Masterton (Slains Pursuivant and Chancellor of the British Association of the Sovereign Order of Malta), the Hon Patrick Lindsay (Endure Pursuivant) and Lady Amabel Lindsay and Mr J C G George (Carlrock Pursuivant).

Diana Duchess of Newcastle, the Duke of Argyll, Margaret Duchess of Argyll, the Marquess and Marchioness of Bute, the Marquess of Lothian, the Earl of Dudley, the Countess of Portland, the Earl and Countess of Dundee, the Earl and Countess of Perth, the Earl of Arran, the Earl and Countess of Dundonald, Major-General Earl Cathcart, Patricia Countess of Cassilis, the *Earl of Kintore*, Earl and Countess of Lloyd George of Dwyfor, the Earl of Wootton, the Countess of Kimmett, the Earl of Minto, the Earl of Lindsay and Abingdon, Earl and Countess Cawdor, Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard, Lord and Lady Richard Percy, Viscount Dupplin, Viscount Ward of Witley, Viscountess Hawarden, Elisabeth Viscountess Pollington, Viscount and Viscountess Melville, Lord Valentine Cecil, Lord Michael Pratt, Lord Michael Cecil, Lord and Lady Maclean of Duart, Lord Norrays, Denise Lady Kilmarnock, Jacqueline Lady Tollemarn, Lord and Lady Tryngham, Lord and Lady Reay, Lord McIntyra.

Lord Renton, QC, Lord Burnham, Lady Hasbrouck, Lord and Lady Neidpath, *Tessa Lady Reay*, Lord Napier and Ettrick, Lord and Lady Mowbray and Stourton, Baroness Carnegy of Lour, Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, Lord and Lady Hesketh, the Dowager Lady Hesketh, Lord and Lady Tanlaw, Belinda Lady Montagu of Beaulieu, Mr Julian Amery, MP, Lady *Victoria Scott*, Lady *Anne Seymour*, Lady Iona Hay, Lady Gilean Mackenzie Weiser (representing the Mackenzie Clan), the Hon John Hesketh, the Hon Emma Roper-Curzon, the Hon David Roper-Curzon, the Hon Sophie Roper-Curzon, the Hon Lucy Roper-Curzon, the Hon Jonathan Roper-Curzon, the Hon Hermione Roper-Curzon, the Hon Peter Roper-Curzon, the Hon Victor and Mrs Groves-nor, the Hon Mrs Nan Sinclair, the Hon Edward and Mrs Stourton, the Hon Richard Norton, *the Hon Moyra Campbell*, the Hon Sir Steven Runciman, CH, the Hon Ceva Wilson, the Hon Anne Kinnaird, the Hon Veronica Lampson, the Hon Lady Maclean, the Hon Kim Fraser, the Hon Mrs Simon Fraser, the Hon Mrs Gascoigne, the Hon James Stourton, the Hon Andrew Fraser, the Hon Piers and Mrs St Aubyn, the Hon Flora Campbell, the Hon John Joliffe, the Hon Mrs Nicolson, the Hon Mrs Agnew-Somerville, the Hon Mrs R Brand, the Hon Timothy Boyle, Sir Denis Forwood, Sir Evelyn Delves Broughton, Sir Henry Warner.

Sir Hamish Forbes, Sir Ivar Colquhoun of Luss, Colonel Sir William Jardine of Applegirth, Sir Rowland Whitehead (Standard Bearer), Sir Donald Bruce, Bt (Bearer), Sir William Keswick, General Sir David Fraser, Lady Elizabeth, Sir Henry and Lady Leask, Sir Peter Mors, Sir Seymour Egerton (Beefsteak Club), Lady Pilcher, Field Marshal Sir Roland and Lady Gibbs, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Eric and Lady Penn, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Thomas Champ Sempill and Lady Sempill, Mr Anthony and Lady Penelope Gibbs (Gibbs Jubilee Collection), Mr and Mrs Alexander Buchan, Mr Benjamin Buchan, Mr David Buchan, Mr Edward Buchan, the Hon Mrs Alister Maclean, Mr Peter Stewart, MP, Mrs Earl Stewart, the Hon William Grosvenor, Diana Duchess of Newcastle, Mrs Rhona Peyton-Jones, Professor and Mrs James Harle, the Hon Mrs Major Green, Mr and Mrs Osbert Green, Mr Peter Hole, Commander Gerald Selleurs, Mr Don Casey.

The Earl of Inchcape, Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor, the Earl of Westmorland, Earl Amherst, Viscount Chelsea, Lord Fanshawe of Richmond, Lord Gibson-Watt, Lord Perry of Walton, Baron Oppenheim, Lady Mountain, Mr and Mrs Alexander Durie, Lady Glen, Sir Donald Gosling, Sir Ian and Lady Morrow, Sir Patrick Reilly, Admiral Sir John and Lady Treacher, Sir Edward Tuckwell, MP and the Hon Mrs Fraser, Geraldine Duchess of Atholl, Viscountess

Mr and Mrs David Howell, Mr David Coleridge (deputy chairman of Lloyd's), Mr Michael Martin (chairman of Garrison Puckle Group Ltd), Mr Anthony Howland Jackson (chief executive of Garrison Puckle Group Ltd) and Mrs Howland Jackson, Mr Carruthers Macdonald and Mr Macdonald & Co. Ltd), and Mrs Greig, Mr Neil Maitland (chairman London Federation of Boys' Clubs), Dr R Holmes (Open University) and Mrs Holmes, Mr Colin Hobson (Graces and Attlee), Mr Timothy Gee (Divan Club), Mr P Hoskins (President of The Saints and Sinners Club), Mr Wingfield (Trades and Allied), Mr Hewitt (Drummonds Brown Royal Bank of Scotland), Mr James Donovan (Hodgson Harris), Mr and Mrs D N Davies, Mr *M Davies*.

Mrs Michael Hurt, Mr N Hurt, Mr and Mrs R F Kershaw, Mr M Kershaw, Mr and Mrs D H Peyton-Jones and Mrs T Hinde, Mrs Ludovic Kennedy, Mr and Mrs J M McGlashan, Mr and Mrs W G Pritchard-Gordon, Mr G Pritchard-Gordon, Mr F Sartori, Mr W Hollenback Jr, Mr C Williams, Mr and Mrs *Peter Healey*, Mr and Mrs D P Dowell, Mr G Dowell, Mrs B N Medlam, Mr and Mrs W Medlam, Dr and Taylor, Mrs A Carton, Mr R Garton, Mr Geoffrey Jameson, Mr and Mrs A G Hobson, Mrs Charles Bone, Mr and Mrs P Walther, Mr Simon Sidwell, Mrs R Sidwell, Mr and Mrs G Parham, Mr and Mrs N Prebensen, Mr and Mrs J Young, Mrs B Trenton, Mr Julian Capel, Mr Martin de Lagarde, Miss S Jenkins, Mr and Mrs Christopher Boggan, Mr Sandy Mackenzie, Mr and Mrs C Empringham, Mr Douglas Bunn, Mr and Mrs Minter, Mr and Mrs Rogan, Mr and Mrs Ivor Biggs, Mr John Stirling, Mr Guy Knowles, Mr Michael Craig Cooper, Mr and Mrs Richard Thornton, Mrs David Donne and many representatives from the Lloyd's Community.

Sale room

Sophisticated buyers bide their time

By Huon Mallalieu

Sotheby's London sale of Impressionist and modern paintings for the spring season ended on Tuesday evening with a total of £4,593,600, but with 46 per cent bought in.

That is not a sign of a collapsing market, rather an indication of increased sophistication among buyers who are prepared to wait for the better things on offer in *New York* next month.

The biggest casualty was a rather dull Picasso composition of 1915-16, bought in at £1,100,000. Much more impressive was a Schiele portrait of his friend and patron Karl Grünwald, dated 1917, which sold to a European buyer at £869,000 (estimate £900,000 to £1,200,000). A sensitive portrait head of a girl by Modigliani, painted in about 1915, went to a private bidder at £269,500 (estimate £270,000 to £350,000).

The message that quality, not *signatures, is what matters* was reinforced by yesterday's sec*ondary session. That produced* £1,944,215 with more than 12 *per cent bought in.*

The top price of the sale was £74,800, paid for a pretty street scene at Lagny by the second rank Impressionist Henri Lebasque, and trounced the estimate of £25,000 to £30,000.

The only manuscript of a novel by Evelyn Waugh to have so far evaded the clutches of the University of Texas appears to *have rejoined its fellows in a* sale of autographs and manu*scripts at Christie's yesterday.* That was *Vile Bodies* with copious notes, inscriptions and a proof design for the cover, and it sold to an anonymous bidder at £59,400. The London dealers Quaritch, who often act for the British Library, were the underbidders. The sale made a total of £373,723 with 12 per cent unsold.

Christie's also offered important gold and silver to a total of £746,636 with only 4 per cent bought in. The London dealer Koopman paid £133,920 for an imposing George IV silver wine cooler attributed to the sculptor John Flaxman, made of marine motifs from the Money-Coutts family.

Science report

'Fingerprinting' oil

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A demonstration of how to obtain blood from a stone was given yesterday at a meeting of the Royal Society of Chemistry at St Andrews University.

It was no trick or sleight of hand but a process where molecules of organic material trapped in a fossilized form in rock 50 million years ago were released.

The molecules were members of the family of compounds called porphyrins which combine with iron and protein to form haemoglobin, the oxygen-carrying and red pigment component of blood.

Porphyrins are found in most living organisms in which they are part of the "pigments of life". In plants and plankton they are constituents of chlorophyll, the green pigment.

It was the relation between the molecules in the rock and their origins in chlorophyll which Professor Geoffrey Eglinton, of Bristol University, explored.

Professor Eglinton described advances in organic geochemistry for analysing the molecules after they have been extracted to discover the geological history of the rock-bearing strata.

The oil industry is developing the technique to aid exploration and Professor Eglinton's research is supported by the Natural Environment Research Council and BP.

The analysis devised by his team provides two vital pieces of information in oil prospecting. The results describe the "maturity" of the rock and they provide a "fingerprint".

The first says if the rock is too immature or too old to be oil bearing. The fingerprint tells the geologist what to look for elsewhere as a signpost for a good deposit of oil.

This information starts from the theory that the oil trapped in the rock pores comes from the disintegration of plant and micro-organisms in anaerobic conditions. At the interim stage before oil formation, chlorophyll breaks down into its constituent parts, including the porphyrin molecules.

Scientists have worked out the heat and the pressures of overlaying rock, as the organic material became buried, at which the decay takes place. Thus, rocks with porphyrins would contain early degradation products or chlorophyll, and are known as "green" rocks. Similarly, rocks exposed to other conditions could go beyond the oil-bearing state.

Professor Eglinton refers to these methods as identifying "molecular markers"

In drilling in the North Sea, the molecular markers can tell the difference between hydrocarbons which show the strata would be coal bearing, rather than oil bearing.

Receptions

High Sheriff of Greater London
The High Sheriff of Greater London *and Lady Taylor gave a reception* for the prison and probation services within Greater London at Inner Temple Hall yesterday evening. Among those present were:
Lord Windlesham, Lord and Lady Elton, Lord Justice and Lady Lloyd, Mr David Mellor, MP, the Treasurer of the Inner Temple and Lady Slade, Mr Justice Farquharson, Sir Brian and Lady Cubbon, Judge and Mrs David West-Russell, Judge and Mrs Peter Mason, Judge Jean Graham Hall, The Director General of the Prison Department and Mrs Train, the Deputy Director of the Prison Department.

CEWC
Dr John Rae, chairman, was host at a reception given at Westminster School last night in honour of the Council for Education in World Citizenship. Those present included Dr William Taylor, president, Mr David Steel, MP, vice-president; the Hon Peter Brooke, MP, Parliamentary Secretary, Department of Education and Science, Mr Clive Jenkins, chairman, TUC Education Committee, and members of the Diplomatic Corps and of both Houses of Parliament.

BIBA
At a lunchtime reception yesterday at Vintners' Hall, at which Mr A. V. Alexander, Chairman of the British Insurance Brokers' Association, was the host, Miss Joanna Slaughter, of *The Observer*, was presented with the 1984 Insurance Journalist of the Year Award. Mr David Worsfold, of *Insurance Age*, was presented with the Technical Insurance Journalist Award, and Miss Gillian Barton, of the *Yorkshire Post*, won the provincial award. The awards were presented by Mr Alan Watson, president of the Liberal Party.

Birthdays today

The Right Rev Dr C. K. N. Bardsley, 78; Mr Dirk Bogarde, 64; Marjorie Countess of Brecknock, 85; the Hon George Bruce, 55; Professor Sir John Butterfield, 65; Mr Robert Harris, 85; Lord *Hutchinson of Lullington*, QC, 70; Mr Frank Judd, 50, Mr Neil Kinnock, MP, 43; Mr R. Lister, 66; Mr Clifford Mollison, 88; Mr Martin Neary, 45; Mr Michael Parkinson, 50; Professor Merton Sandler, 59; Lord Shaughnessy, 63; Sir *John Stephenson*, 75; Mr Richard Stilgoe, 42.

Ashurst Morris Crisp and Company announce that Mr C. A. Gane will retire from the partnership with effect from April 14, 1985. On April 15, Mrs L. A. Bailey, Mr R. J. Finbow and Mr P. Harwood-Smart will join the partnership.

OBITUARY

MAJ-GEN H. L. BIRKS
Command of tank forces in Western Desert

Major-General H. L. Birks, CB, DSO, who died on March 25 aged 87, was one of the few original members of the Tank *Corps* in the First World War who became a leading commander of armoured forces in the Second World War.

Horace Leslie Birks was born on May 7, 1897 and educated at University College School. In February 1915 he enlisted in the London Rifle Brigade (Territorial Army) and served in the ranks.

In 1917 he was given a temporary commission in the *Heavy Branch*, Machine-Gun Corps, which was afterwards re-entitled the *Tank Corps*, and went to France again in July. In the Battle of *Cambrai*, November 1917, his tank, and others, repeatedly pushed into the fringes of Flesquières, beating down the defenders' fire and hoping that their efforts would be followed up.

After the war he was given a regular commission, in the Royal Tank Corps.

After the outbreak of the Second World War, he was sent to Egypt as 2nd in Command of the Armoured Brigade.

In September 1940 the Italians advanced into the Western Desert of Egypt and established themselves in a chain of fortified camps. The much outnumbered British then launched a counter-stroke early in December.

In this riposte the 4th Armoured Brigade commander, Caunter, was given temporary command of the 7th Armoured Division owing to the illness of its chief, and Birks took over charge of the Brigade – which was to lead the advance and deal with the enemy's main tank force.

He played an important part in the dramatic victory that followed. Indeed the bag might have been even bigger, and further progress made easier, if the brigade had been pushed straight through to Sollum, as Birks proposed.

In the conclusive stage of the campaign two months later – the daring move across the desert interior to cut off the remains of the Italian army at Beda Fomm – this brigade again played a decisive part. Caunter had now resumed command of it, but Birks gave valuable aid in co-ordinating the operation.

When Rommel arrived in Africa, and pinned part of the British forces in Tobruk, Birks was sent by Wavell to assist General Morshead, the Australian in command at Tobruk, and he took charge of the tanks and other British troops there. His handling of the tanks and his design of the minefields in the rear had a major part in checking Rommel's successive efforts to capture Tobruk at that time.

After that he was sent on a variety of advisory tasks. In December 1942 he took over command of the 10th Armoured Division, but it was not employed in the later stages of the North African campaign.

But Birks was sent to Italy in August 1944 as armour adviser which was some consolation for his lack of opportunity to show, again, his qualities as a commander.

Unluckily, for his future in the Army, he was disabled in an air crash shortly after the war in Europe ended in 1945.

After retirement in 1946 he was appointed Secretary of the University College Hospital Medical School, and overcame doubts about the wisdom of bringing a soldier into such a sphere. He held the post from 1963.

GEORGE LONDON

George London, the distinguished Canadian-born American bass baritone, died in Armonk, New York, on March 24 at the age of 64. He was the first non-Russian to sing Boris Godunov at the Bolshoi, and had a notable career as a Mozart and Wagner singer during the 1950s and 1960s.

London was born in Montreal on May 30, 1920, but was taken by his parents to live in Los Angeles when he was 16. He studied there at the City College before making his debut in 1941 as *Doctor Grenvil* in *La Traviata* at the Hollywood Bowl.

After various touring engagements and appearances in variety, he began his international career singing Amonasro at the Vienna State Opera in 1949. He sang the same role in his first appearance at the Metropolitan Opera in 1951. He remained as principal baritone at that house until 1966, singing in more than 250 performances with the company.

His most notable parts were Don Giovanni, Boris, Mandryka, Scarpia, the Dutchman and Wotan. He sang the last-named role under Wieland Wagner's direction at the Cologne Opera in the early 1960s. At Bayreuth his roles were Umfortas in the famous Wieland staging of 1951, and the Dutchman, to both of which he brought the benefits of his imposing stage presence and dark-hued voice.

His only London performance was as Giovanni when the Vienna State Opera visited the *Festival Hall in 1954, but he* sang Figaro in Mozart's opera *with the Glyndebourne* company at the Edinburgh Festival *in 1950.*

Illness forced him to abandon his stage career in 1967, but he became music administrator at the Kennedy Center in Washington from 1967 to 1977. He was also producer of the first complete English-language *Ring*, at Seattle in 1975.

London had a strong, dramatic voice which he used with consummate intelligence through a wide range of parts. He was able to fine down his tone for Mozart, and his handsome, somewhat satanic appearance made him the ideal Don Giovanni. The same attributes lent credence to his *portrayal of the four incar*nations of evil in *The Tales of Hoffmann* and of Mephistopheles.

He recorded prolifically, so that the best of his singing is preserved for posterity, most notably perhaps his tortured Umfortas and Golaud, and his formidable Mandryka in the Solti set of *Arabella*.

LORD BEECHING

Sir Derek Oulton writes:

The memory of Lord Beeching will make many judges and lawyers think of courts rather than railways. To them "Beeching" means the Report of the Royal Commission on Assizes and Quarter Sessions 1966-69, of which he was chairman.

The need for the Commission came about because the ancient systems were in serious danger of breaking down. Public attention was drawn to this by the then Lord Chief Justice, Lord Parker, in a speech in June 1966 when he argued strongly for a large degree of centralization and suggested urgent consideration by a Royal Commission.

It rapidly became clear that Lord Chancellor Gardiner's choice of the layman Lord Beeching as chairman had been an inspired one. The thoroughness and speed with which the Commission tackled its complicated task were largely due to Lord Beeching's incisive analytical and deductive powers. He rapidly demonstrated that he had grasped the technical problems of the administration of the higher courts, and his skills as chairman were enhanced by the warmth of his personality and his considerable sense of humour.

Quite early on in the investigation he surprised a judicial witness by putting to him that the listing of cases before individual judges presented, in mathematical terms, the same problems as were posed by trying to achieve the optimal throughput of shoppers passing the tills in a supermarket.

In September 1969, after only three years' work, the Beeching Report was laid before Parliament and was accepted by the then Labour Government, as it was by the succeeding Conservative one the following year. It was well received by the Bar and the Law Society, and was implemented by the Courts Act 1971.

The speed with which the recommendations of the Beeching Report were translated into statute perhaps prevented judges and lawyers from foreseeing the radical effect that the legislation would have. When it did begin to operate, some reacted as the public had over the railways and once again the name of Beeching was associated with controversy.

The greatest measures were the creation of a single Crown Court in place of all the many *systems of assizes and Quarter* Sessions; and the merger of all the staffs of the new Crown Court and the Supreme Court and *county courts into* one unified Court Service under the Lord Chancellor.

Some lamented the passing of the old order, and a *few still do*. But it is now generally accepted that something like the Beeching reforms was inevitable and right in the face of the massive increases in the work of the courts in recent years. Without them, most of the old Assizes and Sessions Courts would have been overwhelmed.

Lord Beeching is likely to be remembered as one of the outstanding legal reformers of this Century.

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THE TIMES
1785-1985

During the two centuries of *The Times* domestic architecture in Britain has flourished. This six-page Special Bicentenary Report looks at the builders' art over 200 years

Fitting fashion for four walls

Taste and wealth dictated the fashion of the finest period of English domestic architecture, which began with George I's accession in 1714 and finished with the end of George IV's reign in 1830. The tradition started by Inigo Jones in the first half of the 17th century blossomed long after his death.

The power loom was patented in 1785, the year *The Times* was founded under its original title, and the Industrial Revolution continued its onward march which rapidly transformed a rural country into an urban nation.

Speculative builders and craftsmen-turned-architects built on an unprecedented scale to house the newly arrived populations of the towns and cities. Frontage on to the new roads was at a premium, so houses were narrow and deep.

The classical tradition in domestic architecture was firmly rooted during the 18th century, with brick the most prominent material although local materials still had their place in the regions. Houses were well-proportioned and mostly soundly built.

Smaller houses generally had a pattern of fenestration which was placed symmetrically around a central doorway, the most important feature of the main elevation, often flanked by columns or pilasters, and crowned by a cornice, hood, pediment or fanlight.

Sash windows had become commonplace by the middle of the 18th century, with glazing bars (which gradually became thinner) finished in white lead paint. The bay and the bow window were re-introduced.

Sometimes a Venetian window would be used over the door, the centre of its three lights with a semi-circular arch. Light coloured stone dressings appeared and stucco became a common feature, like most fashions starting in the south-east and spreading across the country. Chimneys were set into rooms, rather than projected from flank walls. Internally, walls were faced with plaster or timber panelling.

Elegant streets and squares were formed (some, such as Bedford Square, remain virtually untouched), and the great set-pieces of architecture and town planning were built.

But historical associations were even more important to the Gothic Revival, set off by the literary and romantic allusions of Sir Horace Walpole's Strawberry Hill, Twickenham, begun in 1748. James Wyatt's sham abbey at Fonthill, Wiltshire, for the eccentric William Beckford in 1795, was perhaps the most exuberant example.

By the middle of the 19th century public health had become the major issue. The Public Health Act of 1848 marked the start of improved sanitation; and in 1851 the Window Tax, introduced in 1695, was repealed, encouraging proper ventilation.

The Romantic and the Picturesque were predominant stylistically. Anything went – Egyptian, Swiss, Chinese, Indian – but it was Gothic which was to emerge triumphant, with medieval detailing, and Tudor half-timbering and ornamental chimneys in the suburban villa.

Just as terraces of individual houses made for a more imposing facade, so villas were often joined into semi-detached homes. The tenements, never popular in England, and cramped and unsanitary back-to-backs, were rejected in favour of the "self-contained cottage" for the working classes in the Tudor-Walters Report of 1918.

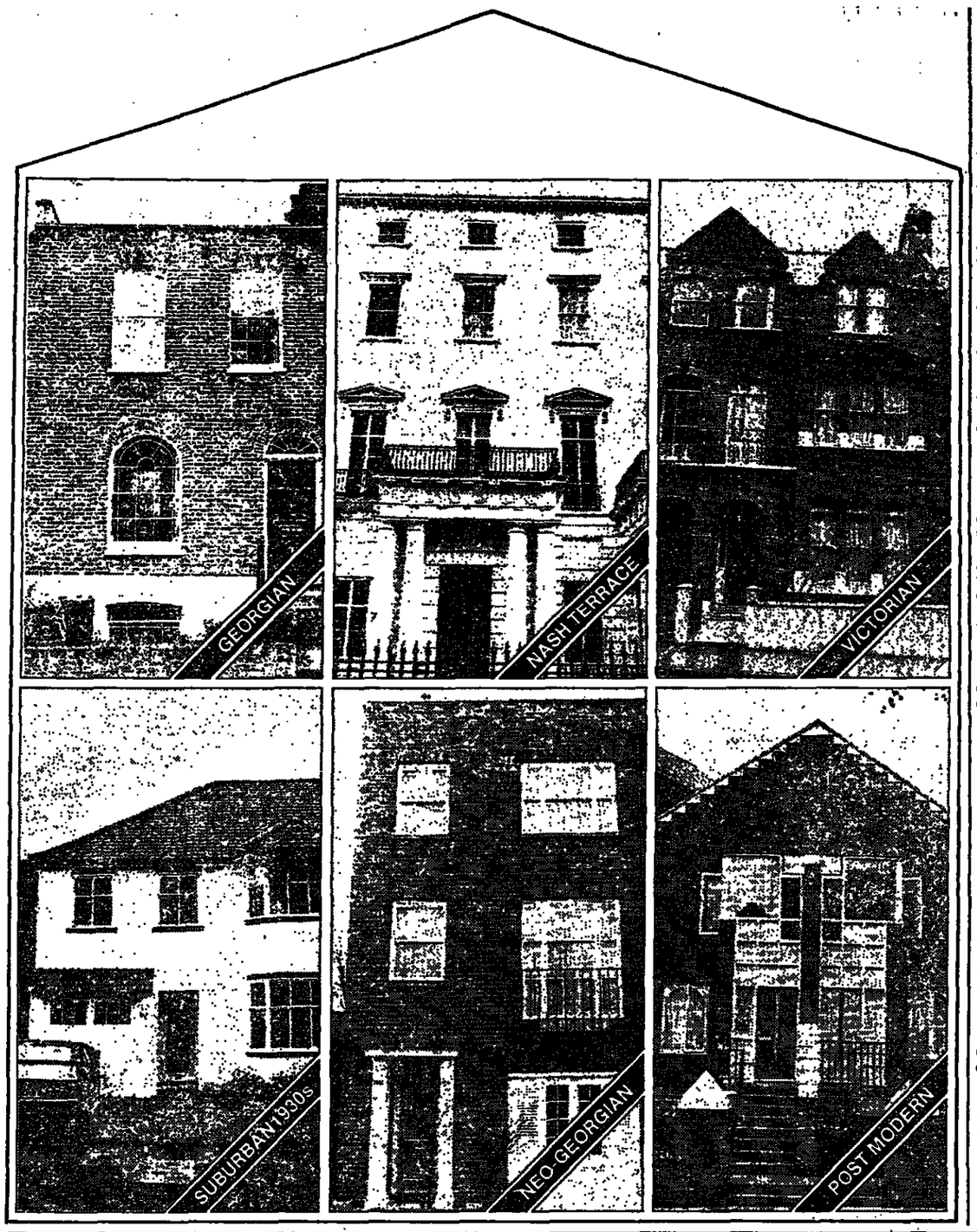
The ideal planned communities of New Lanark, Saltaire, Port Sunlight and Bournville later found expression in the Garden City movement, including both inter-war suburban housing and the post-Second World War new towns.

The semi-detached became the most popular house style for the 20 years between the wars and nearly four million were built.

Shortage of materials and skilled labour led to the introduction of prefabrication techniques to build medium and high rise flats in concrete, sometimes of 30 storeys, the highest residential buildings in Europe. But high rise living never really caught on in Britain.

Although nearly a million local authority flats were built, by the early 1970s the Ronan Point disaster and the public sector spending squeeze killed it off, probably for ever.

Charles Knevitt
Architecture Correspondent



A growing demand for homes

Britain's private housebuilders, praised by the Prime Minister for their part in responding to the increasing demand for home ownership, were given a small but welcome reward in the Chancellor's Budget last week – the abolition of Development Land Tax.

If there is one factor above others which is crucial to the housebuilding programme it is the continuing availability of sufficient land at a reasonable price, and this measure will help. "It will undoubtedly encourage land-owners who have been withholding it because of the tax to sell their land for development," Graham Pye, President of the House Builders Federation, said.

Spreading the ownership of property more widely is a cause dear to Mrs Thatcher's heart and is central to the Government's philosophy because, as she has said, "where property is widely owned, freedom flourishes".

Early this century only 10 per cent owned their homes. By 1951 the figure had risen to 30 per cent, and by 1984 had reached 60 per cent. This compares with around 70 per cent in Australia and New Zealand, 65 per cent in the United States and 55 per cent in Canada, and is higher than most countries in western Europe.

In the last five years the Government has actively encouraged this trend, giving council tenants the right to buy their homes. During the period about 500,000 houses have passed from public into private ownership.

Surveys show that the demand for home ownership remains, for some 80 per cent of young people say they would like to buy. At the same time there is evidence that not enough houses are being built. It is estimated that around 200,000 houses will be needed each year until the end of the century.

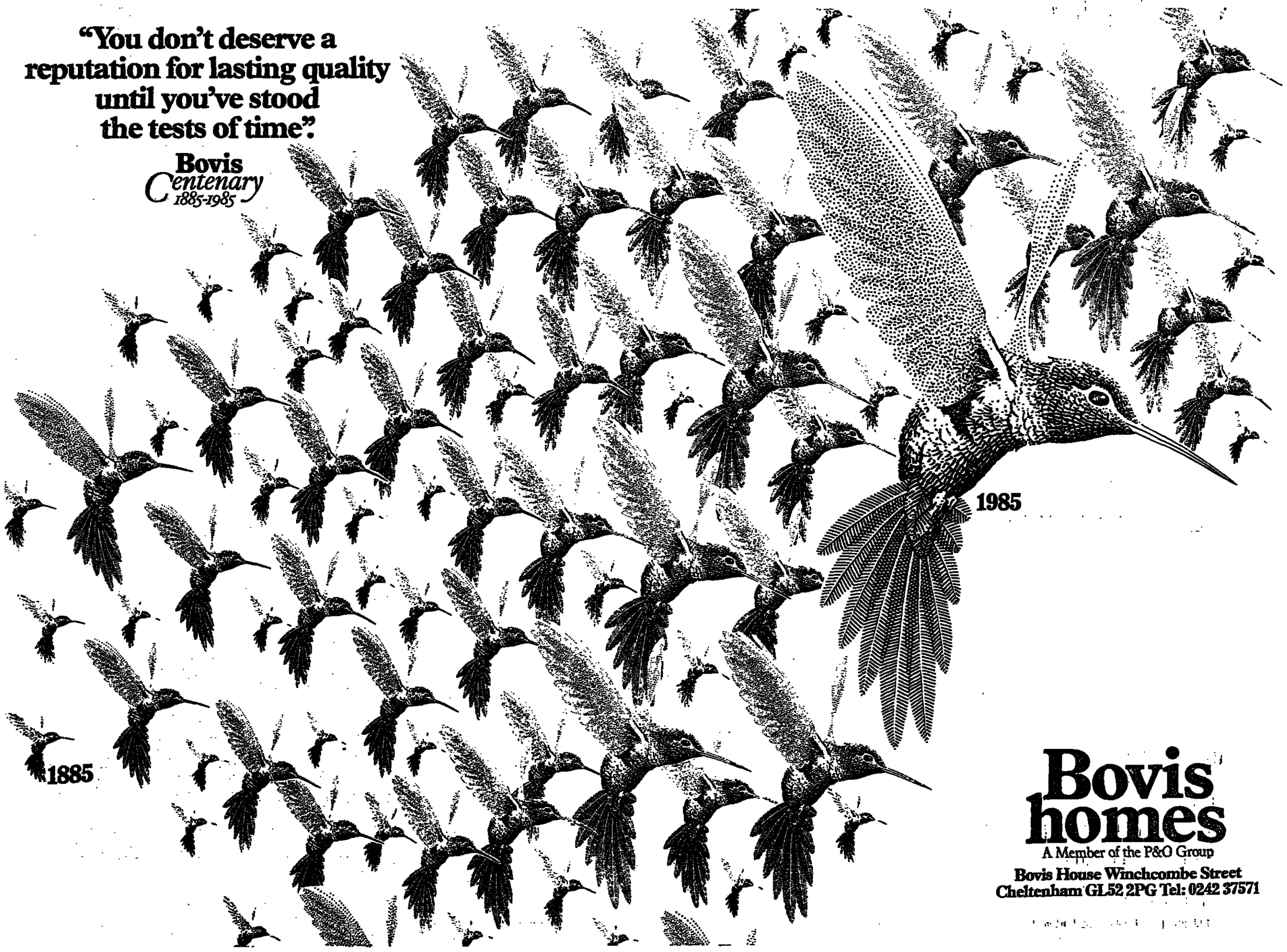
Builders have not only to build more houses: they have to respond to particular demands and fill the gaps left by the decline in public provision.

The two main new markets identified in recent years are starter homes for young couples

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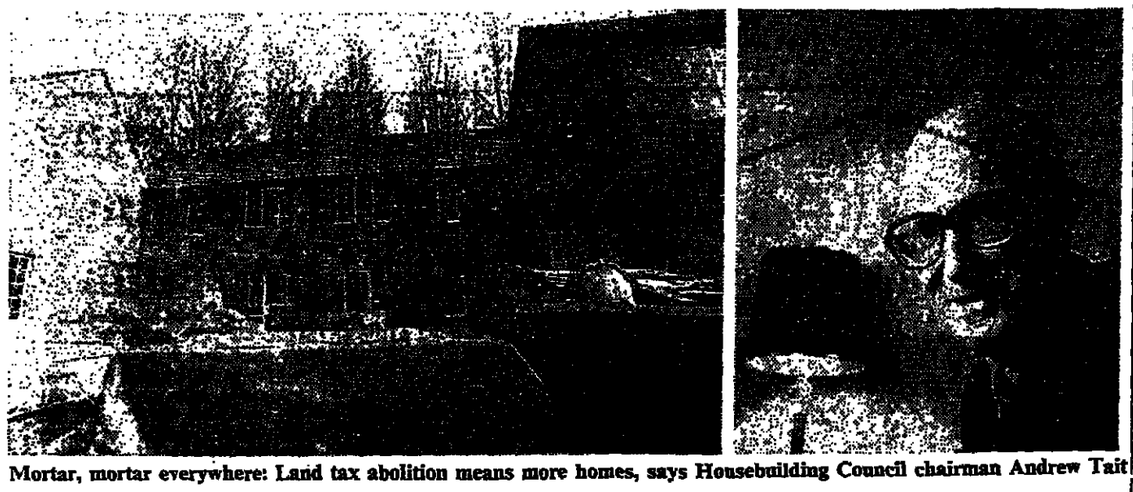
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New life for the old terraces



Mortar, mortar everywhere: Land tax abolition means more homes, says Housebuilding Council chairman Andrew Tait

Continued from previous page

and retirement homes. In addition single people are an increasing proportion of home owners.

They do not want traditional housing. Rather they need purpose-built studio apartments, one-room flats or small houses with one or two bedrooms.

House design and house size is partly decided by the land on which it is built, and this is where the battle between builders and conservationists rages.

Despite the building industry's welcome for the abolition of Development Land Tax, the House Builders Federation warn the Government that this alone will not solve the land supply problem. They believe that planning policies at local level are still inhibiting land supply for new houses, and add that "unless the Government acts decisively to introduce a new planning framework house prices will continue to rise beyond the pockets of many first time buyers".

Andrew Tait, chairman of the National House-Building Council, says: "We would like to see more of the buyer's money going into the building and less into the land.

"We recognize that planning committees have a difficult balance to strike between a proper concern for the environment and for the house buyer, but we believe that sensible planned growth can be accommodated, leaving England's countryside, even in the south east, green and pleasant."

The difference between a marginal under or over supply of land is admittedly small. Overall, 11 per cent of the country is at present developed, leaving 89 per cent as farmland or countryside. By the end of the century it is estimated that demand for housing land will reduce that countryside figure by just one per cent to 88 per cent, and about 84 per cent in the south east.

"I hope that local authorities will keep in mind the needs of young house buyers. If each county contributes its fair share of land, the problem is not insuperable. If some do not, it puts more pressure on the others," Mr Tait concludes.

The House Builders Federation has given illustrations to show the startling effect of land prices on house prices. In Farnborough, Hampshire, typical of the areas of high demand in the south east, land was recently sold at £225,000 an acre, or about £15,000 a plot. This meant that over one third of the average house price in that area, costing about £43,000 went into the land.

In Milton Keynes, where land has been planned to be plentiful, the cost is about £100,000 an acre. Similar houses to those costing £43,000 or more in Hampshire are sold at Milton Keynes for under £30,000, of which the land price represents about one fifth.

That, according to Graham Pye, means there are two growth areas in the south east – in one the plot price for houses is about £6,500 and £15,000 in the other. "The differential, 20 per cent compared with 35 per cent, is what I can only call a land shortage tax."

Builders faced 1985 with considerable confidence despite a dip in starts at the turn of the year, and predicted that around 150,000 houses would be both started and completed during the year.

The proviso then was that their achievements depended on interest rates. With interest rate and mortgage rates up, that confidence has for the moment been dented.

There is a definite move away from the starter home market, with Barratt, who led the others into it, leading them out again. From making them 75 per cent of their output two years ago, they intend to reduce the proportion to 40-45 per cent.

Interest rates and land availability are both vital to the balance needed. In the next few months the former may well ease to provide a boost. To provide the land, both in town and country, will take longer.

Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

PUBLIC TO PRIVATE

The dramatic switch in housebuilding in Britain during the last decade from public to private sector dominance is shown here:

	Starts			Completions		
	Thousands of dwellings					
Year	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private	Total
1974	146.1	105.9	252.1	128.6	140.9	269.5
1975	173.8	149.1	322.9	162.3	150.8	313.0
1976	170.8	154.7	325.4	163.0	152.2	315.2
1977	132.1	134.8	266.9	162.5	140.8	303.3
1978	107.4	157.3	264.7	130.7	149.0	279.8
1979	81.2	144.0	225.2	104.0	140.5	244.5
1980	56.3	98.2	154.5	106.9	127.0	233.9
1981	37.1	115.1	152.2	84.5	112.8	197.4
1982	52.3	140.1	192.3	49.4	121.1	170.6
1983	47.2	167.4	214.5	49.9	139.4	189.4
1984	38.2	152.1	190.4	48.0	150.5	198.4

Source: Department of the Environment.

The brave new world of high-rise and system-built housing to replace old and slum housing over large areas of our towns and cities was halted by a swing of public opinion away from such solutions to the housing problem in the 1960s and 1970s.

This change largely coincided with new thinking by architects and planners, and a lack of government resources. As a result, there was a return to low-rise, traditionally built, individual or terrace houses with gardens. But that was not enough, and an important development at the time was a fresh emphasis on the renewal and improvement of older property, a trend that has continued ever since.

In recent years, government grants for improvements have helped both individuals and building companies, but the present squeeze on local-government spending and local authorities' consequent failure to maintain home-improvement grants at the same levels as in the past few years has thrown the condition of our housing stock into stark relief and threatened the success of the renewal programme.

The English House Condition Survey showed in 1981 that of the 12.5 million privately owned dwellings in England, 900,000 were unfit, 700,000 lacked basic amenities, 1.049 million required repairs costing more than £7,000, and more than a quarter of the total private-sector stock, 3.5 million dwellings, required expenditure of more than £2,500 to restore them to a reasonable condition.

Yet the previous such survey in 1976 had shown that only 859,000 dwellings were in serious disrepair, suggesting that the stock had in fact deteriorated. The Building Employers Confederation estimates that to renovate existing dwellings in disrepair and prevent housing at present in good condition slipping into disrepair or decay would require additional expenditure of around £20 billion (at 1981-82 prices).

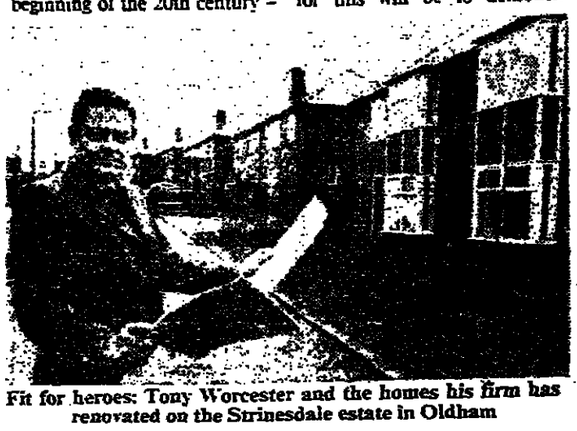
The confederation wants the Government to spend £600 million a year for the next 10 years on private housing improvement.

It said: "Such an expenditure programme would ensure that by the beginning of the 21st century all dwellings possessed at least the basic amenities required to lead a civilized life to standards appropriate to the beginning of the 20th century – a fixed bath or shower, washbasin, sink, hot and cold running water and an indoor water-closet."

Defending the Government's decision to cut back on housing improvement grants, Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, recalled that at its peak the improvement-grants scheme contributed only about 10 per cent to the total spent on improvement and repairs by owner-occupation, landlords and developers, which is running at about £9,000 million a year. "This demonstrates very clearly the limited impact that the public sector money has when set against the resources of the private sector," Mr Jenkin said.

The National Home Improvement Council believes that unless the Government changes its mind on putting money into improvement and renewal, the results will not only be disastrous but will mean a reversal of its philosophy.

In a discussion document, *Improving Our Homes*, it concludes that unless public investment is increased, a new house-condition survey in 1986 would show a substantial number of dwellings now in serious disrepair to have become slums. "The only remedy for this will be to demolish them and rehouse their mostly owner-occupants as tenants in the public sector," it says.



Fit for heroes: Tony Worcester and the homes his firm has renovated on the Strinesdale estate in Oldham

What Mr Jenkin really wants is a series of partnerships, involving all forms of tenure, with local and central government, and private and public sector, to improve housing. Apart from the well-established clearance areas, housing-action areas and general-improvement areas, the Government has introduced three measures: enveloping schemes, where an entire street is renovated in the hope that the action will trigger off further private work; improvement for sale, providing public money to improve a house and then sell it; and homesteading, a low cost route into ownership.

All, according to the NHIC, need further financial resources and closer administration to be really effective.

There are signs, however, that partnership schemes are becoming increasingly attractive.

Among the trail-blazing examples is the sale by Oldham Borough Council of an entire, hard-to-let, estate on the edge of the Pennines. The first sale of its kind, needing DoE approval, it was bought by the Leeds-based construction group for £406,000, and it is spending £1.2 million renovating the 159 houses, most of which will be sold to owner occupiers.

Built in the 1930s and 1940s, the Strinesdale estate needed improvement work, which the council began in the 1970s but failed to finish because of a lack of money. Thereafter it fell into desrepair and disrepute, becoming known as "debtors' retreat". Now, renamed Penine Meadows, 159 houses start a new life.

The big builders, Barratt and Wimpey included, have all begun to concentrate more on renewal and improvement work in urban areas, because of the difficulties of finding enough sites elsewhere and also in response to government urging that they should get involved there.

Wimpey has completed urban-renewal schemes in York, part refurbishment, part new build, and in Islington, London, and Barratt is involved in several large schemes, one of the biggest being at Stockbridge village, Liverpool, a five-year, £30 million project covering an entire local-authority housing estate.

The developments show that the private building industry is increasingly flexible in its work and that improvement of older buildings remains an important element in maintaining and increasing our housing stock.

CW

Helping the vulnerable, encouraging the vigorous: Nationwide in action



In the complicated world of building and housing finance people need help with money and with expertise. Nationwide has a long tradition of support for housing.

In recent months, for example, Nationwide has helped put a roof over the heads of homeless mothers and their children in south London. In the Southampton area we are assisting with 'stay-put' schemes to help elderly people carry out improvement and repair work, so that they can continue to live in their own homes in greater comfort.

And in St Albans a group of self-build enthusiasts was recently given backing by Nationwide, to enable them to start work on the construction of their own semi-detached houses.

Very much in this spirit we have supported inner-city regeneration: Nationwide was the first building society to launch a special support lending scheme. We have also pioneered index-linked lending, to enable people who would otherwise be unable to afford it to buy a home of their own.

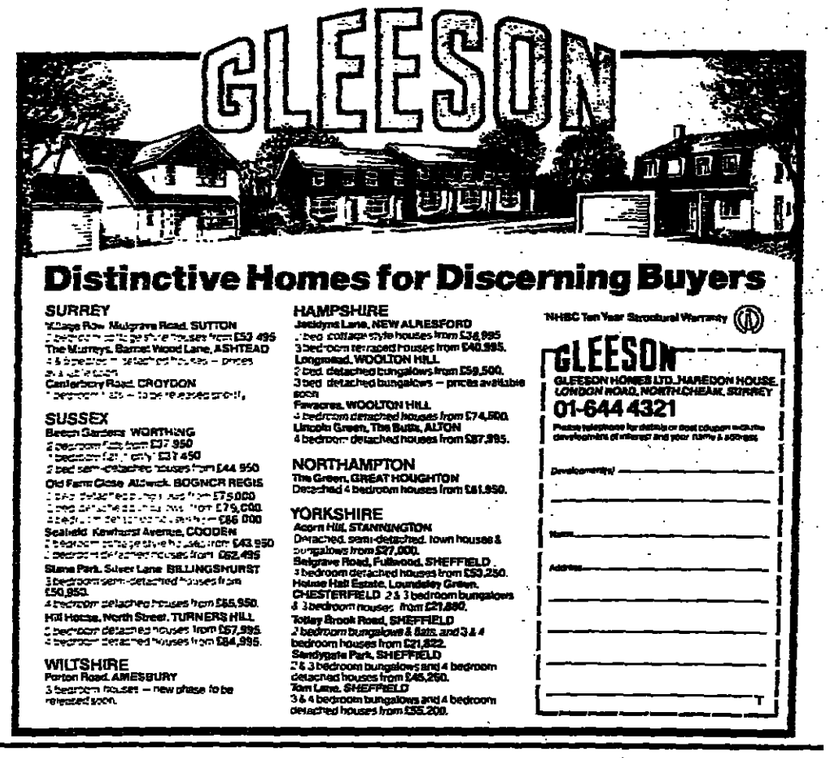
HOUSING TRUST

The Nationwide Housing Trust, established in 1983 with a brief to help improve the Nation's housing stock, has so far committed £28 million to 16 housing developments, providing over 1,250 units in urban areas for those on modest incomes and for those who are in the later stages of life.

Whatever the future, financing homes for as many people as possible will still be our major preoccupation. We reaffirm our commitment to housing.

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The biggest landlord in the West but are its days numbered?

When foreign architects come to Britain, housing built by the London County Council and its successor, the Greater London Council, is always prominent on their itinerary. Although it is building fewer than 400 new homes a year now, in its heyday the council was responsible for up to 7,000 starts a year and its work has always been acknowledged as among the best designed municipal housing in the world.

Architects working for the Metropolitan Board of Works were transferred to the LCC when it took over in 1889 and it was not long before housing became a principal activity. Pressure on land and its consequent cost determined that two types of dwellings were built: flats inside its boundaries and cottages without.

Grim tenements were soon replaced by a more humanitarian architecture inspired by the Utopian social ideals of William Morris and stylistically by Norman Shaw Arts and Crafts (Boundary Street flats, Shoreditch) and a mixture of English domestic and art nouveau (Millbank).

In the early years of the new century, the first self-contained cottages were built, at White Hart Lane, Tottenham, and later the Becontree Estate, Dagenham.

The Addison Act of 1919, following Lloyd George's promise of "Homes for Heroes", required local authorities to build housing and for the first time government subsidy was available. For the next 30 years, the council embarked on an ambitious building programme, which resulted in about 75,000 new dwellings, a third in its boundary (now the inner London boroughs), the rest on greenfield sites.

Such a scale of operation was unprecedented in the days before prefabrication; but for the first time there was a financial and organisational mechanism to build on such a scale.

Le Corbusier's ideas for medium and high-rise living arrived soon after the war – which damaged about 90,000 LCC homes – at Bentham Road in Hackney and the Alton West estate, Roehampton, opened in 1959. Vast estates were built in a mixture of high-and-low rise blocks, such as the Pepys estate





The changes in council house designs over nearly 50 years. Top, GLC chalet-type homes at Globe Wharf, Tower Hamlets, and Bourne Estate, Holborn built in 1909 GLC

on the site of the Royal Victoria naval yard in Greenwich, completed in 1973.

The level of building allowed some experimental work including, for example, a close involvement in the prototype of the Taylor Woodrow-Anglian tower blocks used at Ronan Point. "When we made mistakes we made big ones," says Tony McBrearty, chairman of the GLC Housing Committee.

By the time of the transfer of power from the LCC to the GLC in 1964/65, the council had become "the biggest landlord in the western world", with about a quarter of a million dwellings on its books. But the new council was required to transfer its housing stock to the London boroughs gradually, starting with 100,000 in 1970/71, and another 100,000 in 1980/81.

The statutory obligation for renovation remained with the council, however, and apart from building a few hundred new dwellings a year – about five per cent of its peak period in the mid-1970s – most of its £140-million of capital expenditure goes on patching up pre- and post-war housing.

Mr. McBrearty argues that a £1-billion, 10-year programme is needed to revovate the existing housing stock which is crumbling. After playing a major role in improving the quality of life in the capital over the last 100 years, it now faces abolition when the need for better homes is greater than ever.

"Many of the problems could and should be tackled by the boroughs, but there is a need for a GLC or a similar organisation to assist them," he says.

The facts are that the London boroughs have half a million people on their housing waiting lists; there are 24,000 registered homeless families, of which about 3,000 are in temporary accommodation such as bed and breakfast hotels; and the condition of the housing stock generally has been deteriorating since about 1976.

House condition surveys in 1979 and 1981 have shown that one in four houses require repairs costing at least £2,500, while demolition continues at the rate of between 1,000 and 2,000m dwellings a year.

Abolition has raised more questions than it answers for London's public housing sector. While the boroughs will receive a larger housing investment allocation from the Government, it is unclear what will happen to the revenue from rents; the mechanics of looking after the housing stock still needs to be worked out in detail; and Thamesmead, the mini-new town being built by the GLC on Erith Marshes, finds itself in limbo, with 25,000 of its 40,000 population in place but with its future undecided.

CK



Utopian ideal for living

Housing became a social service with the passing of the Addison Act in 1919, after prime minister Lloyd George had promised "Homes for Heroes" returning from the trenches. Previous legislation aimed at housing the urban poor had produced few results.

The next 55 years, until the mid-1970s, saw privately-rented accommodation decline by 600 per cent, owner-occupation matched it with an increase of 600 per cent, but the public rented sector expanded dramatically, by 3,300 per cent.

The Act imposed a statutory duty on all local authorities to build their own homes with the help of government subsidy. Healthy conditions were provided to combat the repeated outbreaks of diseases such as malaria, cholera, typhoid and distemper associated with bad living conditions. Housing remained the responsibility of the Ministry of Health until 1951.

Until the state intervened the "respectable" poor had to rely on the voluntary efforts of private reformers and philanthropists. John Ruskin, for example, campaigned for the provision of "lodgements" for working people. Prince Albert went further when, in 1844, he became president of the Society for Improving the Condition of the Labouring Classes. He commissioned new homes from the architect Henry Roberts and a pair of his model cottages were built near Hyde Park barracks for visitors to the Great Exhibition of 1851.

Several trusts built tenements around London. 29 of those built by Peabody still stand. Then in 1893, architects in the London County Council, which had taken over from the Metropolitan Board of Works, started an ambitious programme of housing for rent.

In congested urban areas, where land was expensive, flats were built. But on the periphery of towns, greenfield sites were given over to new estates of the "self-contained cottage" which the Tudor-Walters report of 1918 had recommended was the most suitable form of housing for the working classes.

This model, devised by Raymond Unwin, the Garden City architect of Ebenezer Howard, was to be adopted for most of the four million homes built in Britain until the outbreak of the last war.

But the Utopian vision which inspired it was very often left behind, as suburban sprawl (hated by Unwin) blanketed thousands of acres of land. This was one occasion when the private sector followed the welfare state's lead.

CK



Workers' houses: top, Albert's model lodging house, 1851, and above, cottages built by the Duke of Bedford for his labourers in 1858

PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN HOUSING TENURE 1914-74

Year	Owner-occupation	Public rented	Private rented
1914	9	1	90
1947	26	13	61
1964	45	26	28
1974	53	33	14

Note: The table ignores the distinction between 'dwellings' and 'households', and property owned by housing associations and societies.

Postwar promises that were never fulfilled

Postwar public housing has proved a great disppointment to those who were involved in its exciting beginnings. In spite of huge resources being made available, tremendous enthusiasm on the part of the building industry and professions and the political will to act on an unprecedented scale in history, basic answers to the problem of how to provide decent homes for everybody seem to elude us.

After all that was achieved more than a million properties in England alone are still unfit to live in because of dampness, poor drainage or inadequate daylight; a quarter of all homes need repairs costing more than £2,500; and one in 20 still lacks such basic amenities as hot and cold running water, says the National Consumer Council.

Yet at least 10,000 homes built within the last 15 years have been torn down and an estimated £5 billion will need to be spent on essential repairs to keep others up before the end of the century.

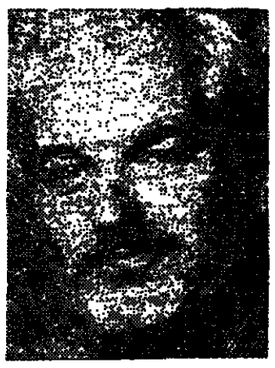
What went wrong?

At a pragmatic level, the failures tend to be either social or technical; occasionally they are both. Mr Andrew Derbyshire, one of Britain's leading postwar architect-planners, told the Royal Society of Arts last week that his generation believed Le Corbusier's ideal cities of the 1920s could create order out of the disorder of the Industrial Revolution. The master's intoxicating rhetoric and seductive sketches convinced everyone that "geometry could rescue people from squalor".

Such ideas could be tested to destruction, Mr Derbyshire suggested. Unfortunately, as it turned out, architects qualified in a country devastated by war, were short of materials and skilled labour.

Early post-war housing schemes, such as Churchill Gardens in Pimlico, by Powell and Moya, and the Roehampton estate, by the then London County Council architect's department, gave a foretaste of the quality of modern living which could be expected in medium-to high-rise blocks built using prefabricated systems. Alas, politicians, planners and the economics of scale proved that was not to be the case.

Governments embarked on the numbers game: Harold Macmillan promised 300,000 new homes a year in 1953; by 1964, Harold Wilson had raised the bid to half a million. Councils were given subsidies to build high, using any of



Andrew Derbyshire: Failures *tend to be either social or technical in a country* devastated by war

literally hundreds of concrete building systems offered by the contractors. Construction workers were paid on speed rather than performance and quality went out the window.

An indication of the lifespan of flats built using new methods of construction was given when Quarry Hill flats, in Leeds, came down in the mid-1970s after 40 years. Most dramatically of all, of course, was the partial collapse of Ronan Point in east London in 1968. Social problems soon became associated with particular estates, such as the Piggeries in Liverpool.

By the time the lessons had been learned, in the early 1970s, the money had run out. This encouraged a return to low-rise homes, in traditional construction, and of a more human scale; and the repair and improvement of a largely Victorian and Edwardian housing stock, through home improvement grants, housing action areas and so on.

Tight control of public sector borrowing has virtually eliminated new housing in the public sector altogether; what money is available is spent on patching up old houses. Necessity has encouraged local authorities to examine other options, however, such as partnership schemes with private developers to build on council-owned land; support for self-help and self-build groups, and giving tenants greater control over their estates.

Welfare state housing has not escaped privatization, with the sale of council homes to tenants; but the goal of 100 per cent owner-occupation will never be more than that while Britain devotes less resources to the maintenance and replacement of its ageing housing stock than any other civilized country.

One recent estimate is that it will be 900 years before the "housing problem" will be solved at the present level of action. That is an untenable position but one which might be with us for the foreseeable future.

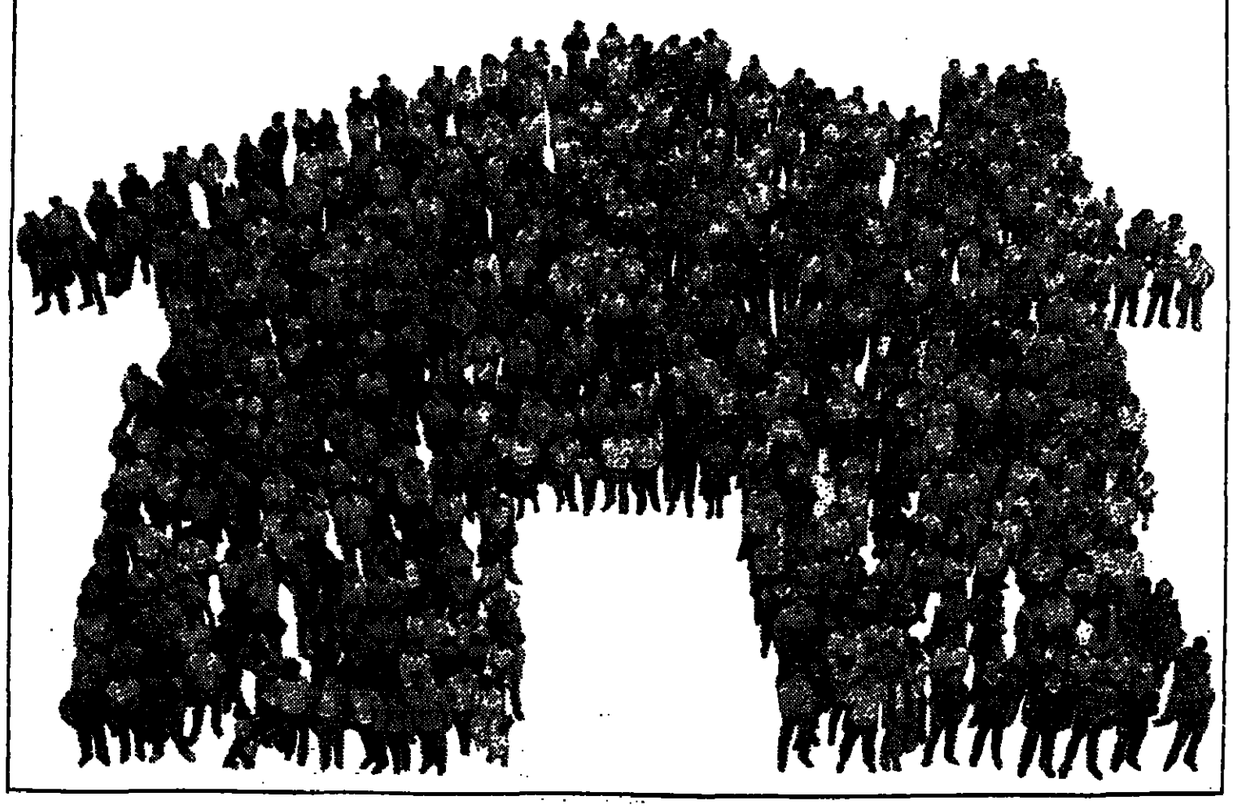
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New for old: Harold Macmillan, then Minister for Housing, inspects an old-fashioned kitchen at a modernization exhibition in London in 1954

WHICH BUILDING SOCIETY GIVES MORE HOME LOANS THAN ANY OTHER?

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How the people spoke up for design



Rod Hackney: community propagandist

In Michael Frayn's award-winning play, *Benefactors*, which is about helping people and people being helped, the character of David, an architect, is given two of the most telling lines about professional attitudes.

At the opening of the play, his dreams of rebuilding Basuto Road, SE15, are encapsulated by the words which will be familiar to hundreds of communities throughout the country: "They're going to get their houses pulled down whether they like it or not. And we don't need to ask them what they want instead because we know."

Some 15 years later, his Brave New World remains unbuilt, scuppered by a campaign mounted by his journalist friend, Colin, and the impossibility of building anything of quality when hamstrung by the bureaucracy of regulations and control.

"It was people," says David. "That's what wrecks all our plans – people."

Last month, the Prince of Wales took up the cause of the "ordinary bloke" in his address to the Institute of Directors' annual congress at the Royal Albert Hall. He had been inspired to talk about "community architecture" following recent private visits he had made to self-help and self-build housing cooperatives in Liverpool and Macclesfield. It was a theme he first touched on when talking to architects at Hampton Court Palace last spring.

He endorsed a movement which grew out of community action in the inner cities from the late 1960s and early 1970s. It was local people who campaigned for better housing and a better deal generally, and who resented being patronized and told what they could have by central and local government.

> *"What I believe is important about community architecture is that it has shown ordinary people that their views are worth having: that architects and planners do not necessarily have the monopoly of knowing best ..."*
>
> The Prince of Wales addressing architects at Hampton Court Palace last year on a theme he returned to at the Institute of Directors' annual congress last month

The community activists included young (and not so young) architects who, within a few years, were being hailed as heroes by Colin Ward, in an article in *New Society*. Among them were Jim Johnson, of ASSIST in Glasgow, Ralph Erskine and Vernon Gracie for their work in the Byker area of Newcastle, Jim Monahan in Covent Garden, and Rod Hackney in Macclesfield, the movement's most skilled politician and propagandist.

Now the point has been taken by the profession, through the Royal Institute of British Architecture's Community Architecture Group; the Government, with a number of initiatives from the Department of the Environment; and most recently by the Church, when the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, talked about hope for the inner city earlier this month.

It would seem that community architecture is now unstoppable, as everyone involved slowly begins to realize that not only does it make good sense to let people play an active part in shaping their immediate environment, but that in the present times, self-help and self-build might be the only way to solve the mammoth problems presented by inner-city decay.

The *Riba* has recently launched a programme of Community Urban Design Assistance Teams (Cudats) based on the successful American experiment pioneered by David Lewis, a British architect, in the aftermath of the city riots there in the 1960s. Participation grew out of the civil rights movement and RUDATS, the US equivalent, led to a renaissance of inner-city neighbourhoods

The next target in Britain must be to encourage architects to set up shop in the streets which are most in need of help as part of an official programme. Hundreds are already working at this level in community architecture projects throughout the country, but the question now being asked is: if a National Health Service can provide doctors, and a legal aid service can provide solicitors, where they are most needed, then should not those in the inner city be given access to the professional expertise of architects in repairing their environment?

Today's community architects are less concerned with the product of what they build (few are unaware of the profession's form fixation), as with the process of achieving a satisfactory result for their client – the users of their buildings.

The recent alignment of the profession, government, Church and monarchy in encouraging "ordinary blokes" to have a greater say in deciding their future is perhaps the most encouraging – as well as most significant – new development in housing since it became a social service nearly 70 years ago.

CK

The ultimate in do-it-yourself



If you want to do something well... a self-help building group at Milton Keynes

Self-builders are the third largest housebuilders in Britain today after Barratt and Wimpey. That comes as a surprise to many people, but with completions estimated at 10,000 this year (based on VAT registrations wih Customs and Excise), those who choose to go in for do-it-yourself on the grand scale are now a significant force in the market-place.

Colin Murray, secretary of the Society of Self-Builders, is based not far from one of the earliest self-build schemes: Stonehenge. He says there are three main reasons why people decide to self-build:

- The want more for their money, and have definite views about the style and layout of house they want;
- Man seems to have an instinct to build for himself, to embody his ideas and labour in his home.

The rewards, apart from the satisfaction of doing the job, should include a saving of at least 20 per cent on the mortgage value of the house; quite possibly up to 40 per cent. The more effort put in – whether preparing foundations, installing central heating and plumbing, or simply decoration – the greater the saving; 50 per cent being the maximun, the rest represented by the materials, of course.

Self-building involves managing the project, from finding the land, itself no easy task these days, with speculative house-builders paying £200,000 an acre and more for prime sites in the south-east, to reorganising the plans, subcontracting specialist work, choosing materials and negotiating trade terms with suppliers.

Most homes are built by individuals but a substantial minority of homes are built by friendly societies. Groups of self-builders register as housing associations under the Industrial and Provident Society Act, thus aquiring legal status. The association then operates as building company, with the cash-saving advantages of a large group.

Generally a specialist consultant acts as manager. It is often, but not always, an architect, and he has other experts at his disposal. One of the most important arrangements is loan finance, often through the Housing Corporation. The consultant will also supervise work to ensure smoooth progress and, hopefully, avert most of the headaches which could arise. His fee is based on the medium value of each individual property.

Groups are usually formed because there is a shortage of land or it is available only as a "job lot", and money is tight. Often, site problems which require special foundations, for example, can be tackled more cost-effectively by a group.

Those involved in a self-build association may typically spend 24 hours a week over a 52-week year organizing and building the house, including all their holidays. It is not something for the faint-hearted even to contemplate. Banks and building societies are generally happy to lend money these days, but the house will probably have to be fairly conventional (worth bearing in mind for its resale, too); and the loan agency likes to have someone professionally competent to check that the work complies with building regulations.

On some private house-building sites it is now possible to buy a ready-plumbed foundation and ground floor slab on which to build. Outside the Home Counties, a typical small site might cost from £12,000, which the self-builder might move on to straight away in a caravan having sold an existing house.

Away from the South-East, cheap small plots are still plentiful, some offered by estate agents but many available from local authorities.

The chronic housing shortage, downturn in public sector house-building programme and rising cost of building makes self-build an increasingly attractive option. Stirling Disrict Council has recently embarked on an ambitious self-build scheme, the biggest in Scotland for 60 years.

The Abbey National and Scottish building societies are providing the finance for the rehabilitation of 29 flats and the construction of nine new-build homes on council land, which could set a trend in public and private sector tie-ups to beat the cut back in housiag investment imposed by the Government.

CK

● *Information: Society of Self-Builders, Chelston House, Flower Lance, Amesbury, Wiltshire SP4 7HE. Secretary: Colin Murray.*

Mortgage changes to come

The fact that more than half Britain's houses are owned by their occupants is to a large extent due to the activities of the building societies. Their remarkable success owes much to the highly specialized nature of their business and, until recently, to the lack of any other competition in the home-loan market. But to retain their pre-eminence in a new climate of competition they are now having to change their ways for the first time in nearly a century. For housebuyers, the new competition in the mortgage market is already paying dividends.

Over the last 10 years, owner-occupation has risen from just over 50 per cent to 60 per cent of the country's housing stock. Most of the buying was done through mortgage finance. The building societies have notched up new lending records in each of the last three years, rising to a million loans worth more than £20 billion last year. Moreover, by offering lower rates of interest on smaller loans – the opposite of normal financial practice – the societies consciously encourage first-time buyers to enter the housing market. Roughly two-thirds of all the loans last year were to first-time buyers.

Hence the rapid expansion of owner-occupation. And the societies go further. Because of their sound financial position they are willing and able to lend more than 80 per cent of the value of the property when other mortgage lenders will not. Increasingly the societies are lending up to 100 per cent, particularly when mortgage funds are as plentiful as they were at the end of last year.

However, borrowers have benefitted more from the ending of the interest rate "cartel" in 1983 when societies ceased to agree on a common level of lending rates. Though the situation is now less simple, with societies setting different rates and varying differential structures, there is more pressure to keep the rates low. Two societies, the Woolwich and Nationwide, have even ceased to charge more on bigger loans and have a single rate for all mortgages.

This development was also stimulated by the sudden entry of the clearing banks into the mortgage market in 1982. Almost immediately, this new competition took 30 per cent of that year's mortgage market. After a brief withdrawal, the banks have settled down to a 20 per cent share.

> Owner-occupiers will rise in numbers

Unlike building societies, the banks tend to aim for the upper end of borrowers, where loans are bigger but no more expensive to service. From the start, therefore, they did not charge more on large loans. This business was so clearly attractive that last year saw the entry of yet more bank lenders, this time American banks such as Citibank and Chemical Bank, even merchant banks.

At the same time as new competition came the period of historically high lending rates – now around eight per cent above inflation. This has led to the introduction of new types of loan designed to be more flexible and cheaper than the traditional form of repayment or endowment mortgage. There are home loans linked to unit trusts, for example, or tied to tax-favoured pension schemes. Another, inflation mortgages, carry very low repayments in return for a proportion of any increase in the property's value when it is sold.

The new forms of loan are becoming more popular as they become better understood by the public. A more dramatic development is likely to come when building society legislation is finally comprehensively overhauled in an Act due next year. It will allow societies to offer more banking-type services in savings and credit facilities.

In a recent report the Building Societies Association calculated that the number of owner-occupiers would continue to rise until the end of the century. By the year 2000 more than £100,000 a year would be needed to fund house purchases, the report said.

Both banks and building societies will continue to lend in proportion to their present market shares and will be able to find the funds to do so. By the start of the next century the BSA calculates that no less than about 75 per cent of Britain's housing stock will be owner-occupied.

Richard Thomson

From associations to new towns

Besides private and local authority housing, the 550,000 houses owned by the housing associations are a tiny proportion of our housing stock – 2.5 per cent – but this figure is steadily growing as the associations fill an increasingly important role in providing public housing.

Though the National Federation of Housing Associations is a comparative youngster, celebrating its golden jubilee this year, its members go back to the Middle Ages, the oldest being the St Laurence Charity at Cirencester, Gloucestershire. That is one of the alms-house associations, of which there are about 2,000 providing an average of 10 houses each.

They were the first to provide sheltered housing, which altogether now forms about half of housing association accommodation.

The route to the present widely varying associations has passed through the Victorian philanthropy movement and the formation of the Metropolitan Association for the Improvement of the Dwellings of the Industrial Classes, quickly followed by the Peabody, Guinness and Samuel Lewis Trusts.

The non-profit housing linked with industrial concerns arrived too, producing New Lanark in 1810, Saltaire, near Bradford, in the mid-19th century and Bourneville and Port Sunlight, Merseyside, later.

The movement came into the modern age with the Housing Acts of 1961 and 1964 which set up the Housing Corporation to act as its banker and policeman and provided government funding for the first time.

With the passing of the 1974 Housing Act the framework was complete and saw housing associations as the major public agents for rehabilitating and improving older urban property, especially in the inner cities.

In the past 10 years, the movement has increased, the number of houses from fewer than 250,000 to more than 500,000. During the late 1970s associations built more than 40,000 houses in three successive years, but spending cuts have reduced that to about 22,000 a year.

Even so, the associations, crossing political barriers, have fared better than local government at a time of spending cuts.

Richard Best, director of the National Federation of Housing Associations says:

"We are now waiting for better times, for we have proved that we can run a bigger programme".

"We were a bit amateur in our approach, but now we are very professional and it is galling that now we are ready to go, we are on a declining programme. We like to think we combine the best of the private sector in our adventurous attitude with the good things from the public sector, providing a service and not trying to make a profit."

The 26,000 voluntary committee members, ranging from a High Court judge to modest tenants, are drawn together by their wish to do something for the old and others who need housing and see their reward through the tangible results of houses with people living in them.

Housing initiatives pioneered or fostered by the movement include co-ownership, co-operative and self-build housing associations, low-cost home ownership schemes such as shared ownership, and housing for special needs.

Housing for sale now accounts for about 16 per cent of their output, which Mr Best thinks is enough.

He sees an increasing need for the movement to draw in private funding, as it cannot depend on the Government.



Richard Best: Housing associations have proved they can do still more

The movement is seeking to involve building societies in the hope that they will lend on a low but index-linked basis, which would help the associations to keep up the momentum.

With the Nationwide in particular, this is an encouraging source. Through their partnerships with private builders and links now with building societies, housing associations seem set to increase their role in providing public housing that fills a much-needed gap.

From within the whole housing association movement came the forerunners of the garden city movement and new towns of this century.

The 11 first-generation towns, designated between 1946 and 1950, include eight ringing London which were set up to tackle the capital's postwar housing problem. The other three – Aycliffe and Peterlee in Co Durham and Corby, Northamptonshire – were built in response to the needs of local industry.

The second generation towns – Redditch, Skelmersdale, Runcorn and Washington – were intended to ease urban congestion, while the third generation, including Northampton, Telford, Milton Keynes and Peterborough, were designed to cope with larger population targets.

The Government's investment in the 20 English new towns has exceeded £3.7 billion for 850,000 people, 340,000 houses, 10.5 million square metres of factories, 1.3 million square metres of offices, and shops, roads and community facilities.

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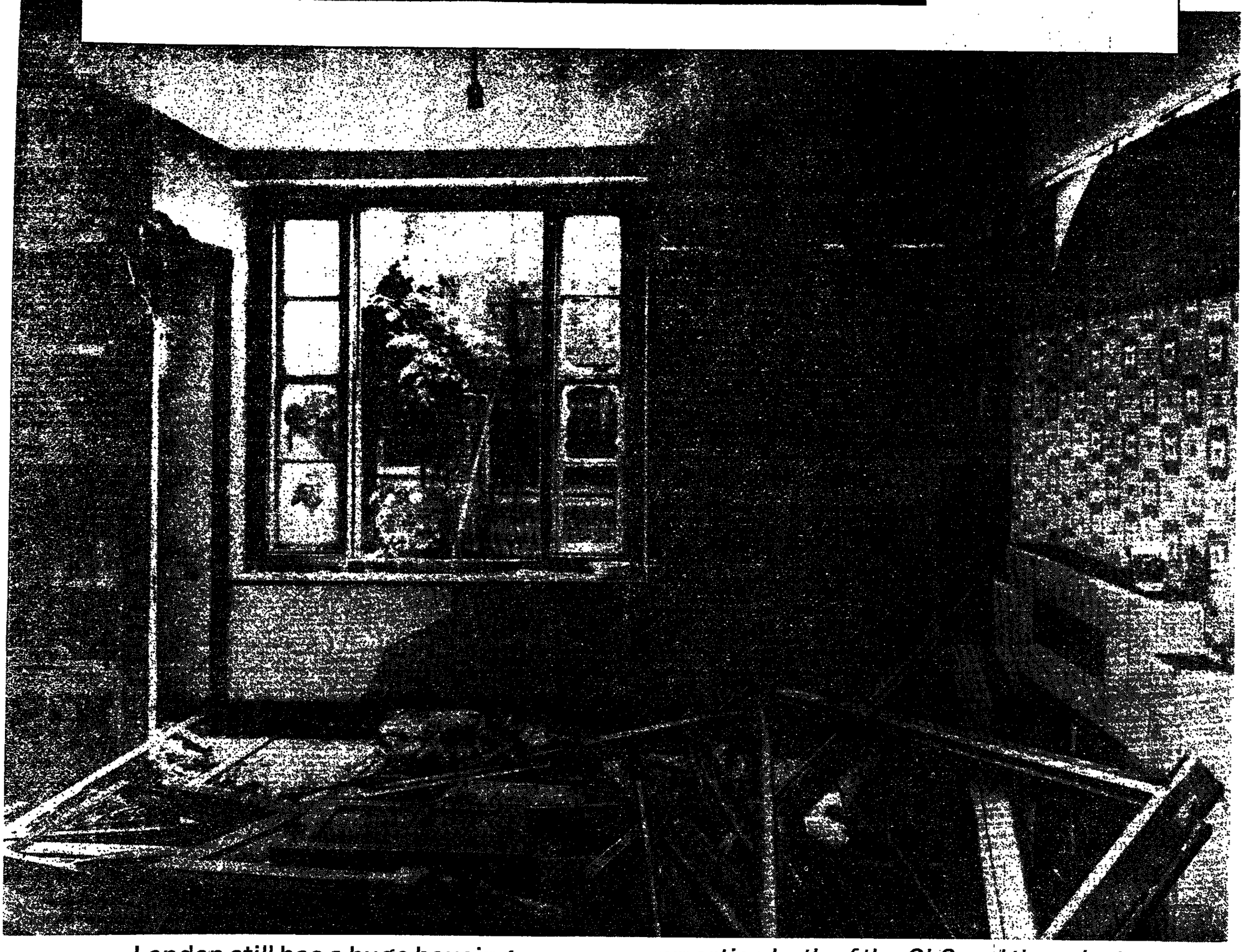
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Room for improvement... or area for cuts?



London still has a huge housing crisis. Tens of thousands are homeless and one home in four is unfit for human habitation, in serious disrepair, or lacking basic amenities such as a bathroom. The worst conditions are found in the private sector, particularly in rented housing.

Many council homes, in their day offering excellent accommodation, are now over 50 years old and need modernising.

In 1980 the GLC began transferring its homes to the London boroughs and undertook a government-imposed legal duty to renovate that housing. As a result the GLC is investing in a massive £1,000 million programme of improvement up to 1992.

This programme is the biggest of its kind in the country. It has required the expertise both of the GLC and the private construction industry to deal with the immense problems concerned.

Abolition of the GLC would at best mean a tremendous disruption to the renovation programme. At worst, it could end it altogether. The Government has stated that the London boroughs will receive the money previously allocated to the GLC. However, during the past five years, the money made available by the Government for public investment in housing in London has been more than halved. Furthermore, a cut of £65 million in housing allocations was hailed as a 'victory' by the Secretary of State.

What price decent housing for Londoners after 1986, with this record?

GLC
Working for London

Planners with leisure in mind

Professionals liberated by micro-computers from the rigid working week need a leisure programme suited to their needs. Space for rest and recreation is becoming a major marketing device for the home of the future.

At the Ideal Home Exhibition, Wimpey Homes has three new styles on show, one of which is a four-bedroom house incorporating a jacuzzi and a multi-gym. Bovis Homes, however, has approached new lifestyles in a more innovative way. The company is building a mixed development of 81 homes in Milton Keynes which resembles a holiday village in concept. Among the flats and executive houses is a sports centre for the exclusive use of the residents.

There is a swimming pool, jacuzzi, multi-purpose sports hall, residents' lounge, solarium, an edge-of-the-lake barbeque and a tennis court.

Neville Tullah, regional managing director, says: "We are building the apartments and houses around the centre. The houses will be aimed at professional couples with children moving to Milton Keynes. The emphasis is very much on today's family."

As land is so scarce in the Home Counties, Milton Keynes was chosen for such a development. Mr Tullah thinks the Midlands will see more of this type of development.

"Because the land values are cheaper, you are so constrained in the South-east by high land values that it takes away design innovation," he says.

Home videos have established themselves as a part of a leisured lifestyle. Thorn EMI and Wimpey Homes are now undertaking a research project to look at ways of increasing new technology in the home.

Subject to final agreement and planning permission, Wimpey Homes intends to construct a show house at Thorn EMI's research centre in Uxbridge. The house will be wired with fibre optic cabling for experiments in home automation. If the project goes ahead, the two companies will conduct market research of selected people for their reactions to the automated home.

Sue Markham, Thorn EMI's home electronics strategy director, says: "All the sophisticated stuff has been done in laboratories where you do not have the problem of people living in it."

One possible subject for research is the ability for videos to be shown all over the house instead of being confined to the main television in the living room.

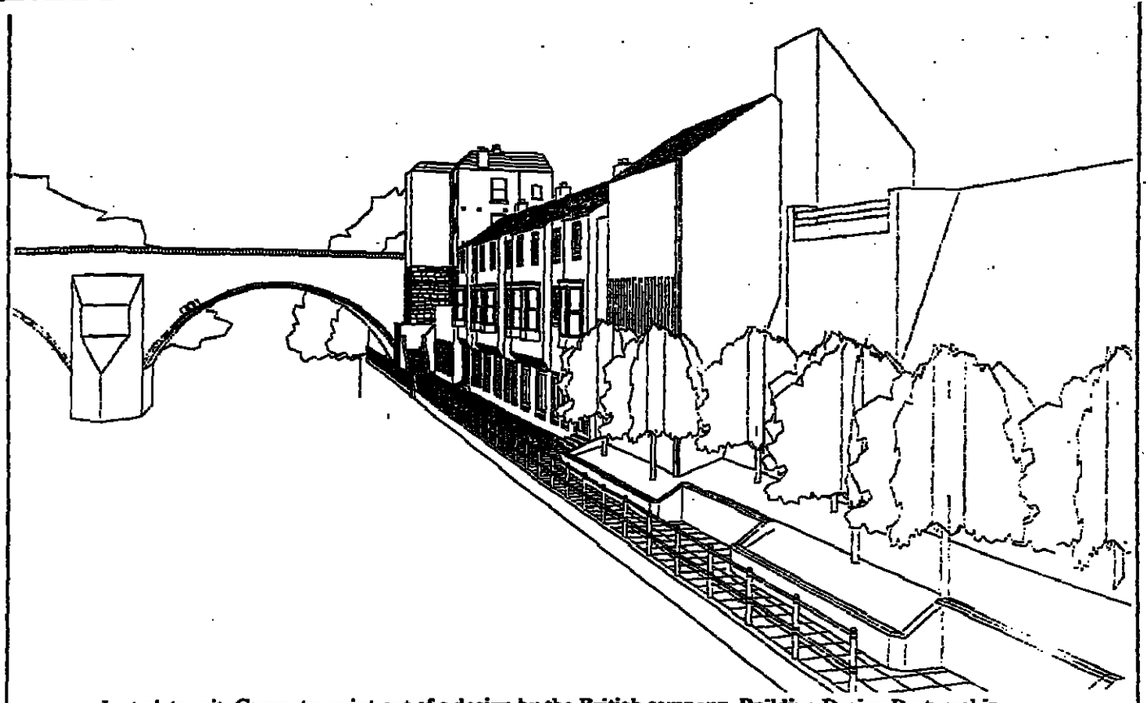
"A lot of people have two or three televisions, one in the kitchen for breakfast TV or one in the bedroom, as well as the living room," Mrs Markham says. "You cannot normally use these televisions for replaying videos, so a useful thing would be to pipe video signals around the house."

Security is another area the two companies will examine. A cheap security system can be devised to control the front door using the domestic television. If planning permission is granted, work will start on site in the summer.

Bellway Homes built a "high tech" home in Doncaster two years ago. "We included all the gadgets you could imagine," says Howard Dawe, group technical director. "There were computer-controlled curtains, kettles, lights, whirlpool baths. It was a fun thing to some extent."

In its range of houses costing more than £35,000, Bellway fits an electronically-motivated alarm to the exterior of the house. Inside panic buttons, pressure mats and electronic eyes are installed and linked to the general alarm system. "It is a package that purchasers can continue to add to," he says. The company is also working with the North East Gas Board to provide an insulation package.

Madeleine Dyer



Just picture it: Computer print-out of a design by the British company, Building Design Partnership

See your ideal home take shape on the VDU

Chic house-hunters in the year 2000 might find it as natural to visit their house-designers to plan their ideal home with the increasing use of computer-aided design.

It is now technically possible to design a house to an individual buyer's specification, which could make homes designed by established developers seem a little off-the-peg to discerning tastes in home haute couture.

It is already happening in the United States, where affluent buyers visit architects or developers and experiment with their own ideas based on standard housing styles in three dimensions on a visual display unit.

In this way, buyers can decide in advance how much space they want to allocate to living, working, leisure, exercise, storage and the car.

Using the computers database of standard elements of house construction, whatever ideas buyers have for their homes are checked for building regulations and safety standards. As everything is automated for the developer, buyers are assured of high standards. And the buyer also has a wide range of materials from which to choose.

The American company, Carrier Corporation of New York, manufacturers E2000, a computer-aided design system being used for this purpose by a Pennsylvanian housing developer. The developer uses precut sections of logs as the principal building material which he then "pieces together like an electronic Lego set".

The system generates construction drawings based on the buyer's specifications which are then passed on to local agents who assemble them into houses. Quite a few residential housing developers are using them in North America.

Such freedom in the choice of design would be hampered by shortage of land in this country which is not a problem in the United States. The architectural practice, Building Design Partnership, a British company, has developed a similar three-dimensional modelling system called Acropolis which can perform many of the same functions as E2000. At the moment it is only available to house-builders rather than individual house-buyers.

Richard Saxon, a partner in the firm, foresees these systems becoming so sophisticated that they will be able to list individual goods and services in a design drawing and calculate their cost, or even how much energy a particular design will use. Electronic catalogues of fixtures and fittings on a video disc linked to a computer-aided design program could furnish the house on the VDU to the buyer's choice.

MD

Science and sense in getting it right

Recent worries about possible failure in timber-frame and masonry block constructed houses due to condensation, caused in some cases by poor workmanship on-site, is one of the focal points of scientific research using new technology to make designs foolproof.

But the National House-Building Council, architect of the 10-year warranty to assist homes to last well into the 21st century, wants to eradicate poor workmanship as a cause of building failure.

The NHBC feels the public's confidence in the industry can only be harmed by builders who have claims made against them. It has therefore instigated a pilot study with the aid of 10 medium-sized housebuilders to monitor the practice of selecting building materials and the quality of the practical work done on site.

"We plan to have firms doing more positive things to achieve quality assurances", says Anthony Cooper, deputy director general of the NHBC. "It is a matter of individual firms organizing management and men in such a way that the end result is more foolproof and less prone to snags arising." Mr Cooper says builders should specify at the outset what standard of finish they expect to receive on site from their employees and their materials.

House-builder Charles Church, which won an award in the NHBC's Pride in the Job campaign last year, is one of the 10 and the study's results are expected in May.

It is precisely to control and monitor materials that one of Laing Construction's housing divisions, Superhomes Limited, employs micro and mainframe computers to make its housing designs foolproof and cut wastage and pilferage costs.

The computer prepares materials schedules for each house under construction. Components like heating systems or kitchen and bathroom ware are held in a central warehouse, and are released only when needed to fit out the shells of houses. These are then delivered to the site in separate locked containers which are not opened until required by the Superhomes team, who work under strict Superhomes supervision. This system is available to other volume builders.

Laing also has a programme to assist financial decision-making on land viability. All the variables involved in house-building, like the cost of land and the installation of sewers, are fed into the computer and an idea of how much each house on the proposed site will have to cost in order to make a profit is forecast. It allows the company to pull out of an unprofitable scheme before it loses money.

Before the British Standards Institute or the British Board of Agrément pass or issue certificates on building materials, they test them under extreme conditions, monitoring their progress by computer to assess their capability to perform a particular function in a house.

And if the NHBC's quality assurance scheme takes off, the day when a house will be seen as a consumer durable along with items like an electric iron, worthy of a kitemark denoting quality, safety and value for money, is much less than 15 years away.

MD

The modern Mayfair office in a suburban semi



Rosemary Vaux: 'It's marvellous'

Working from home with new technology requires extra space. And although new homes may have rooms for this purpose, the growing number of self-employed, more than one million of them based at home, probably make do with the living room or converted bedroom.

Given the Chancellor's favourable reaction to the self-employed in the Budget, there are likely to be a lot more people working from home in future. So how do people cope with working from home?

Rank Xerox was one of the first organizations to negotiate service contracts with independent limited companies which were founded by former employees. This is integral to the employees being able to develop their own business interests.

"I have two rooms set up as offices which were bedrooms," says Rosemary Vaux, 40, from her semi-detached home in Harrow. She has decorated them to look business-like, installing red curtains and matching angle-poise lamps to add a colourful "high-tech" flavour.

Mrs Vaux edits Rank Xerox's international headquarters' newspaper as well as running her own public relations firm.

She thinks working from home is "marvellous". She says: "I have no travelling to do, therefore I get much more done. Productivity is fantastic and it is very easy to run the rest of my life."

Rank Xerox has a network contract with Mrs Vaux's public relations company, and as a networker it lends her a microcomputer, software and a modem link which she uses to relay copy to its offices down the telephone line. She does not feel inhibited by living and working in the same place, nor does it disrupt her. "I'm not working in the dining room or kitchen", she says. "I feel the same way sitting here as I would sitting in an office in Mayfair."

MD



Superhomes' container: All items under lock and key

700 years of housing associations



This year the National Federation of Housing Associations celebrates its 50th birthday —admittedly, no match for The Times in its 200th year. But housing associations go back to the Middle Ages. Some of those charitable bodies are still around today. And have been joined by a range of newer housing associations.

Today over a million people in England and Wales live in rented homes provided by associations. And despite our long history, more than half of these homes have appeared in the last decade. Every year some 30,000 additional homes are completed. About half are in schemes of new building, principally of sheltered housing for the elderly. The other half are in schemes of property acquisition and modernisation.

Some housing associations are relatively large. Those sponsoring this message all provide more than 5,000 homes each. Many are small: more than half the 1,850 associations in membership of the National Federation of Housing Associations own less than 200 homes. They may work nationally, or just in one town or village.

They may cover a range of needs, or they may concentrate exclusively on some particular group such as the disabled, frailer elderly people or the single homeless. Their strength lies in their variety and diversity. This gives them flexibility and the chance to provide a personal service of housing management.

All are controlled by unpaid voluntary committees. These comprise specialists and others who share a common concern to meet unmet housing needs.

In many areas, there are acute shortages of decent homes to rent for those for whom home ownership is not the answer. Yet the programme of local authorities is now at its lowest ebb. And there is no expectation of a major revival of investment in private renting. Housing associations, suppported by the statutory Housing Corporation, can fill the gap and can improve housing conditions on a wide scale, in partnership with local councils.

Recent public expenditure reductions have led us to pursue new sources of investment, including building societies and private developers. But we believe that the provision of homes to rent for those with lower incomes will require government subvention for some time to come. This leads us to underline the need and the value of national support for the continuation of this vital work.

As well as helping to cure one of the greatest social evils of our time, providing decent homes for those on lower incomes generates much-needed employment in the construction industry. And these efforts are concentrated on the people and in the areas that need them most.

National Federation of Housing Associations

175 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8UP

This statement is sponsored by twelve of Britain's largest housing associations: Anchor Housing Association, The Guinness Trust, Hanover Housing Association, Jephson Housing Association, London & Quadrant Housing Trust, Merseyside Improved Houses, North British Housing Association, North Housing Association, Notting Hill Housing Trust, The Royal British Legion Housing Association, The Sutton Housing Trust, and WPHT Housing Association.

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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

New dilemmas from pound's recovery

Yet again, it was the dollar that was the moving spirit in the foreign exchange markets yesterday; but yet again, it was gold and the pound that stood out as the main beneficiaries. Gold gained seven dollars in London to close at $331.25 an ounce, an advance that was preceded and supported by overnight gains in Hong Kong and followed by heavy trading on Comex in New York, where at one stage the price jumped to $334.

The Gulf War is making the gold market nervous; but the dollar is still seen as the key. The same balance of influences helped push the pound up a staggering 5.8 cents in London, to close there at $1.2395 – the kind of exchange rate untouched since last November.

But sterling's rise against other currencies, as the outflow from the dollar focussed on the British currency, increased the sterling index by an even more significant jump of nealy two full points. It closed at 77.6 – a level unknown since last September.

This reflected gains against all major currencies, but it is the rise against the German mark that is the most significant.

The pound closed in London at over DM3.85 – quite as high as it was a year ago, whereas its recovery against the dollar has some was to go before reaching the level of about $1.40-$1.45 seen last March. More to the point, the pound was standing last night well above the range of DM3.70-DM3.80 in which Britain appeared to be shadowing the European currencies last summer.

Mr Lawson appears to prefer the independence of shadow membership of the European Monetary System, from which he can resign and rejoin from week to week. But the dilemmas remain the same. If he allows the pound to rise too far against the German currency, Britain will begin to lose intra-European competitiveness – particularly since inflation is lower in West Germany than in the United Kingdom. With talk of a cut in German interest rates, British rates are beginning to look awkwardly high; the three-bank interbank rate closed yesterday at 13⅜ per cent.

Mr Lawson has helped to engineer the pound's recovery by demonstrating his readiness to keep interest rates up. The results, however, are beginning to look a little unbalanced. As unease about the American dollar spreads (fed yesterday by a lower than expected Federal Funds rate and by rumours of financial difficulties in Texas after the decline in energy prices) the pound may be receiving a more-than-digestible share of the backwash.

Meanwhile Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, was giving evidence against a dramatically different exchange rate background to the dollar bubble he helped to prick. He spoke soberly of the new banking regulatory arrangements, and their relevance to that little local emergency in Ohio that became international news. But whatever internal worries remain for America, there may well be some discreet satisfaction among the international brotherhood of central bankers. However they did it, they can by now claim some credit for having moved the markets – though only in the history books, of course.

Housing shadow over inflation

The new weights for the retail prices index, published in the Department of Employment's gazette today, confirm the upward trend in housing costs in the measurement of overall inflation.

The weight of housing costs in the RP has risen to 153 parts per 1,000, compared with 149 last year – and only 108 back in 1975.

This year, however, could be the last that housing costs appear in the RPI in their present form.

The building societies have argued that to take mortgage rates in the RPI – but not interest rates payable to savers – is one-sided. But an expenditure index cannot be adjusted to accommodate income; so the easiest solution is to exclude housing costs from the RPI, whatever the accusations of fiddling the figures.

In the meantime, the Government has to live with a housing boost to inflation. Its upward pressure is shown clearly in the Treasury's red book forecast for inflation, published on Budget day.

The Treasury expects the RPI to rise by 5 per cent in the 12 months to the fourth quarter of this year. In the same period, the housing component of the index is expected to increase by 7 per cent.

This housing component is pushed up by house price inflation, feeding through into larger mortgages. In the 12 months to the fourth quarter of last year, for example, this higher house price (and biggest mortgage) effect accounted for 2¾ points of the 10½ per cent rise in the index of housing costs.

The Treasury is likely to be assuming a similar effect this year, so that 2½-3 points of the 7 per cent are accounted for immediately. A further 2 points come from the 6.2 per cent rise in local authority rates assumed by the Treasury, and 1.7 points from the 7.2 per cent rise in council house rents. The remaining half point comes from assuming that the costs of repairs and ground rents group roughly in line with general inflation.

The 7 per cent rise is arrived at without any change in mortgage rates: assuming, in other words, that mortgage rates at the end of this year are the same as in the fourth quarter of last year – when they averaged little over 12 per cent.

Should mortgage rates remain at their current level of 14 per cent for the year, the Treasury's inflation forecast would be upset. The housing component of the index would rise 12 per cent, rather than 7 per cent; and the overall inflation rate would be nudged up to 6 per cent.

Britannia Arrow on right path

Yesterday's revelation that Britannia Arrow is planning to build up a retail broking chain through Heseltine Moss makes good commercial sense. Britannia refused to pay a fancy multiple for its 29.9 per cent stake in the stockbroking firm, and has also eschewed the City's urge to merge, preferring instead to push ahead with long-term plans to build up its own banking and insurnce businesses. A retail broking chain, with spin-offs into the other divisions, fits in quite neatly.

The development contains elements of historical irony. Broadly, this is where Singer and Friedlander, the banking arm of Britannia, came in. The accepting house, which joined Britannia in April last year, made a name by floating provincial companies. Subsequently, Singer and Friedlander enjoyed livcly times, as first C. T. Bowring, and then European Ferries owned it – although one man, Anthony Solomons, consistently directed it.

Britannia Arrow has also enjoyed a variegated career, rising from the ruins of the Slater, Walker empire, initially with nothing but tax losses and an investment management business. It now finds itself in the unexpected, and unwanted, shadow of Guinness Peat, which has acquired a quarter of the equity – seen, if nothing else, as "a good investment".

Both Michael Newman (ex-Slater, Walker) and Tony Solomons, chief executive and deputy chairman respectively at Britannia, yesterday solemnly affirmed their commitment to cautious trading. As if to prove their point, they produced a solid profits performance, with the pretax figure up £4 million to £14.1 million; a dividend increased from 2.2p to 2.5p; and, wonder of wonders, investment profits taken below the line. The price last night was 100p.

Profits rise 44% to record £1.4bn at BAT Industries

By Our City Staff

BAT Industries, the tobacco, retailing and insurance group, led the way yesterday as four of Britain's top companies reported their results. BAT showed itself as Britain's most profitable non-oil company, with 1984 pretax profits of £1.4 billion, outstripping ICI, which became the first non-oil company to pass the £1 billion mark last month.

The profits from BAT, up 44 per cent on the £979 million reported last time, received a double boost from Eagle Star insurance company, which it acquired last year. That contributed a first-time £125 million, but this was boosted by an extra profit of £95 million arising from a controversial change in its accounting policy for the investment portfolio.

BAT also benefited from the pound's weakness against the dollar. Currency translation added £205 million to profits.

Yesterday's strength of sterling helped knock 25p off the BAT share price which closed at 328p.

The results for 1985 will be affected by the dollar's performance, but Mr Patrick Sheehy, the chairman, said the businesses in both the industrialized world and developing countries continued to progress in a more encouraging environment.

Shareholders are rewarded with a final dividend of 6.25p making 10.3p for the year, an increase of 25 per cent.

Interim results for the Burton Group showed profits for the 26 weeks to March 2 ahead by 33 per cent, to £34.7 million, after sales improved by a third to £264 million. Burton's chairman, Mr Ralph Halpern also reported an improvement in trading profits of 37 per cent, and an increase in the net margin from 12.7 per to 13.1 per cent.



Patrick Sheehy: business continues to progress

The interim dividend goes up from 2p to 2.5p, and group employment has improved by some 1,000.

"Another successful half-year has been achieved by contributing to the lifestyle needs of customers through retail chains which are targeted on clearly defined sectors of the clothing market", commented Mr Halpern.

Babcock International saw pretax profits fall in 1984 from £34 million to £31.6 million, on broadly unchanged sales of £1 billion. A proposed final payment of 4.3p should take the full-year payment to 8p, up 14.3 per cent on 1983.

Meanwhile, underwriting losses on the Prudential Corporation's general insurance business more than doubled last year, from £76.9 million to £161.4 million.

Announcing its 1984 results yesterday, the company disclosed that despite an 18 per cent increase in investment income its overall trading loss rose sharply from £7.6 million to £79.7 million. As a result, pretax profits fell by more than 22 per cent, from £101 million to £78 million.

The company was hit by steadily increasing numbers of claims Tempus, page 26

Norcros accepts £113m offer

By Alison Eadie

Norcros, the industrial company with interests in ceramics, construction, engineering and print and packaging, has made a £113.24 million agreed bid for UBM, the builders' merchants. Norcros already owns 36.2 per cent of UBM, which it acquired at 127p a share in 1983 when it made its abortive bid for UBM, against a current bid price of 192p a share.

UBM's shares were flagging a renewed bid when they rose 21p to 160p at the start of the week. The Stock Exchange then suspended both them and Norcros shares and is now conducting an investigation to see whether there is any evidence of insider trading.

Norcros' previous bid, which lapsed in October 1983, was worth £75 million. Mr Terry Simpson, chief executive of Norcros, said the price seemed right at the time. Since then UBM's profits and share price have risen strongly.

The agreement of the UBM board was secured this time both by the higher price and because having a shareholder with 36.2 per cent stake was unsatisfactory.

The terms of their bid are seven new Norcros shares and 840p cash for 10 UBM shares, or a cash alternative at 189p a share. Approximately 27.7 million new Norcros shares will be created making 22.3 per cent of the enlarged equity. The cash element will cost £33.3 million.

UBM has estimated taxable profits in the year to February 28 of £13.5 million against £10.2 million and Norcros has forecast £34 million to March 31 against £33.05 million, and a 15 per cent dividend increase.

Martin profit

R-P Martin, the money broker, which is being taken over in an agreed bid worth £43.9 million by Quadrex, an investment banking group, yesterday reported interim pretax profits of £4.2 million compared with £4 million. There is no interim dividend.

Agreed bid for Waring & Gillow

By Our City Staff

Mr Cyril Spencer, the former chairman of Burton Group, bounced back into the high street yesterday with an agreed bid worth £24.9 million for the ailing furniture chain Waring & Gillow – and immediately issued a challenge to the rest of the trade.

He said: "We shall be attacking stores like Debenhams, House of Fraser and Habitat. We have only got 7 per cent of the market at the moment and it should be a lot bigger. And it will be once we have got the right image and the right merchandise."

His Hopecastle consortium making the offer is backed by Albion Trust, an investment banking business half owned by the S. & W. Berisford commodity group, and includes Mr Ashley Meyer, aged 37, formerly managing director of Debenhams Furnishings.

They are offering 160p of unsecured loan stock with an alternative of 153p a share in cash. The terms have the backing of the Waring & Gillow board who speak for 19.9 per cent, and Great Universal Stores, which owns another 30.9 per cent.

Waring & Gillow, which dates back to 1695, operates 116 stores, including the Maples chain, but last year made a profit of only £314,000 on sales of £93 million and has frequently been tipped as a takeover target.

Mr Spencer, aged 60, who was chairman of Burton Group until 1981, says the problem has been in a failure to replace traditional styles of furniture with more modern styles.

Gatt fears trade 'disaster'

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Failure to deal now with the grave problems facing international trade "is a prescription for escalating troubles and, eventually, disaster", according to a report prepared for the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt).

Trade policies for a better future – proposals for action is the work of seven economists headed by Mr Fritz Leutwiler, until the end of last year chairman of the Swiss National Bank and president of the Bank for International Settlements.

Their 15 recommendations for immediate action to meet the crisis include bringing the making of trade policy into the open, so that taxpayers and consumers can see how much protectionism, subsidies and other market restrictions cost.

All countries, they underline, are failing to apply Gatt rules properly, especially in agriculture. They also recommend the winding up from next year of the Gatt mulitifibre arrangement (MFA) on trade in textiles and clothing.

Whitbread lifts stake in M Brown

By Cliff Feltham

The Whitbread brewing group appears to be coming to the rescue of Matthew Brown, the Lancashire brewer fighting off an £88 million takeover bid from Scottish and Newcastle.

Whitbread Investment Trust, Whitbread's investment which already owned just over 5 per cent of Matthew Brown, announced yesterday that it had now raised its stake to 8.84 per cent – seen as a sign that it wants to keep the brewer independent.

But a spokesman for Whitbread Investment Trust denied it was trying to get embroiled in the battle. He said: "We look upon this purely as an investment."

However, the move provoked a sharp response from Mr Alick Rankin, chief executive of Scottish and Newcastle, who said: "We didn't enter into an acquisition situation to be put off by Whitbtread."

In the stock market, Matthew Brown shares held steady at 428p, against the 361p value of the all-share bid.

In a seperate announcement, Whitbread confirmed it was involved in legal battles to hold on to its Mouton Cadet wines and Finlandia vodka brands in the United States.

IN BRIEF

Irish insurer 'may have lost £99m'

The troubled Insureance Corporation of Ireland which is being taken over by the Irish government faces losses of not more than Ir£120 million (£99 million). Introducing a Bill to take the company over from its owners, Allied Irish Bank, Mr John Bruton, Irish industry minister, said there was no reason to believe that losses were outside the Ir£60 million to Ir£120 million range.

Allied Irish Bank, which bought the insurer for Ir£86 million in 1983 is providing Ir£20 million in an interest-free loan to the government to help the rescue. A further Ir£50 million loan from other banks has already been arranged. Mr Bruton has already hinted that a surcharge of around 1 per cent on all Irish insurance policies is likely.

Rosehaugh stake

Rosehaugh, a company headed by Mr Godfrey Bradman, has taken a 49.9 per cent stake in Village Homes, formed to develop and manage purpose-built nursing homes for the elderly.

Tootal Group, the textile company fighting an unwanted bid from Australian Entrad group, made pretax profits in the year to January 31 of £22.85 million, 33 per cent up on 1983/4. Sales were 12.4 per cent higher at £435.4 million. The shares rose ½p to 73p. Entrad is offering 70p cash.

Frogmore rise

Frogmore Estates, the renamed Fairview, Estates, made pre-tax profits of £4.62 million for the half year to December 31, a 15 per cent increase on the previous figure. The Company's switch from being a housebuilding company to a commercial property and investment operation is nearly complete with land sales reducing debts by 30 per cent to just over £24 million. The interim dividend is 1.768p a share and the estimated net asset value is 209p compared with 194p a share last year.

Growing Japan

Japan's economy will grow a real 5.5 per cent in the year starting April 1 after an expected 5.8 per cent growth in 1984/85, according to the Japan Economic Research Centre in Tokyo.

BTR gains control of Dunlop

By Ian Griffiths

BTR, the industrial holding company, has won official control of Dunlop. It confirmed yesterday that more than 50 per cent of Dunlop's preference and ordinary shareholders had accepted the terms of the £101 million bid which has now been declared wholly unconditional.

The outcome of what had been a hotly contested takeover was in no doubt after the Dunlop board, chaired by Sir Michael Edwades, decided to recommend a revised bid from BTR earlier in the month, which substantially raised the original £33 million offer. At the time of the revision the Malsian Pegi Corporaion, which owns 26 per cent of Dunlop, said that it would accept the new terms.

The combined group will have a turnover approaching £5 billion. However, BTR will have to take on board the massive debts which Dunlop has run up in recent years. At the end of 1984 Dunlop owed its banks £513 million, but that figure has been reduced through divestments.

The British subsidiary of Pirelli yesterday reported an after-tax profit of £4.6 million for 1984, up from under £250,000 the year before. Sales were up by 13 per cent to £143 million.

Budget 'will create 200,000 jobs'

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

The budget extensions of the Youth Training Scheme and the community programme could reduce unemployment by an estimated 200,000 by early 1988, Treasury officials said yesterday.

Giving evidence to the House of Commons Treasury Select Committee, Mr Anthony Battishill, head of the Central Unit at the Treasury, gave the estimates. He said that the community programme extension alone would produce an extra 100,000 jobs. Taken together with the training scheme extension, it could reduce unemployment by "something over 150,000" and in two years' time by "perhaps 200,000" by the start of the following year.

Mr Battishill said it was impossible to prophesy the likely impact of the Chancellor's restructuring of national insurance contributions in favour of the lower paid.

Earlier, another Treasury official denied that the decision to allocate an extra £5 billion to the contingency reserve over the next three years implied either that the Treasury was expecting not to meet its public spending plans or that it implied a tightening of the Chancellor's fiscal stance.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord	979.3(–2.7)
FT- A All Share	N/A
FT Govt Securities	81.06(+0.28)
FT-SE 100	1,288.0(–2.4)
Bargains:	26,966
Datastream USM	113.69(–0.48)
New York	
Dow Jones	1,264.35(+4.64)
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	12,550.82(+64.67)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	1,350.65(+6.52)
Amsterdam:	204.2(+0.3)
Sydney: AO	826.5(+8.6)
Frankfurt:	
Commerzbank	1,183.2(–21.1)
Brussels:	
General	255.93(–15.13)
Paris: CAC	210.4(+1.0)
Zurich:	
SKA General	243.00(Unchanged)

GOLD

London fixing:
am $329.90-pm $330.40
close $331.25-$269.75
New York:
Comex (latest) $330.8

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:

Jantar	24 +11
PCT Grp	170 +30
Plastic Construction	62 +10
UBM Grp	187 +27
CIFER	15 +2
Reardon Smith "A"	12½ +1½
J Wilkes	255 +25
Feedback	103 +10
Arncliffe Hldgs	32 +3
Miss World Grp	270 +25
Reardon Smith	23 +2
Bristol Oil & Min	25 +2
Supra Grp	40 +3
Kwahu	27 +2
Campari Int	30 +2
Ryan Int	15 +1

FALLS:

Ben Bailey	27 –7
Zygal Dynamics	25 –5
Biomechanics	13 –2
Feedex Ag.	26 –3
Jonas Woodhead	22 –2
Cecil Gee	170 –15
Norcros	154 –13
Burco Dean	24 –2
BAT Ind	328 –25

CURRENCIES

London:
£: $1.2320 (+0.0508)
£: DM 3.8568 (+0.0620)
£: SwFr 3.2696 (+0.0548)
£: FFr 11.8026 (+0.2116)
£: Yen 310.71 (+8.69)
£ Index: 77.6 (+1.9)
New York:
£: $1.2360
$: DM 3.1300
$ Index: 147.3 (–2.3)
ECU £0.583430
SDR £0.828652

INTEREST RATES

London:
Bank Base: 13½%
3-month Interbank 13⅞-13⅝%
3-month eligible bills buying rate 12²¹⁄₃₂-12¹⁵⁄₃₂%
US:
Prime Rate 10.5%
Federal Funds 7½%
3-month Treasury Bills 8.38-8.34%
Long bond 95²⁹⁄₃₂-95²¹⁄₃₂%

FROM FAIRVIEW ESTATES PLC

TO FROGMORE ESTATES PLC

In pursuance of the Company's policy agreed in 1982, its planned withdrawal from house building is substantially completed.

To underline its new status with a concentration of activities into commercial and industrial property investment, the Company's name has been changed to Frogmore Estates plc.

Interim Results (Unaudited)	6 months to 31 Dec 84	6 months to 31 Dec 83
	£000's	£000's
Turnover	17,073	19,563
Profit Before Taxation	4,626	4,021
Taxation	(1,855)	(1,287)
Profit After Taxation	2,771	2,734
Interim Dividend	613	550
Net Amount per share	1.768p	1.607p
Earnings per share	8.0p	8.0p
Estimated Net Asset Value per share	209p	194p
Contracted Rent Roll	£6.297m	£5.159m

Dividend

A Net Interim Dividend of 1.768p per share will be paid on 10th May 1985 to shareholders registered at close of business on 25th April 1985. This represents an increase of 10%.

Highlights from Chairman's Statement

* Pre-tax profit at £4.626m is up 15% and the estimated net asset value is now 209p per share.
* Interim dividend is up by 10% and covered 4.5 times by earnings.
* Contracted Rent Roll is up by 22% to nearly £6.3m.
* Activity on lettings, pre-lettings and new development projects is at a high level.
* Borrowings are down by 30% to just over £24m. This reduced gearing and consequent increased financial strength enables the further development and investment opportunities currently available to be grasped.
* The phased withdrawal from house building is substantially complete.

FROGMORE HALL
WATTON-AT-STONE
HERTFORDSHIRE
SG14 3RW
TEL: WARE (0920) 830033
TELEX: 817058 FROGMO

FROGMORE ESTATES PLC

WALL STREET

	Mar 26	Mar 25
AMF Inc	16⅝	16⅝
AMR	39⅛	39
Allied Corp	37⅞	38¼
Allied Stores	57⅛	56⅝
Allis Chalmers	7	7
Alcoa	33⅝	33⅝
Amax Inc	17⅛	17¼
Amerada Hess	30	30
Am Brands	69⅝	69⅝
Am Broadcast	105⅛	105¾
Am Can	52	52½
Am Cyanamid	51¼	51⅝
Am Elec Power	21¼	21⅛
Am Express	42⅛	41½
Am Home	61	60⅝
Am Motors	3⅝	3½
Am Nat Res	64⅝	64⅝
Am Standard	31½	31½
Am Telephone	21⅝	21½
Armco Steel	8¼	9¼
Asarco	25½	25½
Ashland Oil	29⅝	30¼
Atlntic Richfield	48¼	48⅛
Avon Products	20⅝	20⅝
Bankers Tst NY	63⅝	63½
Bankamerica	18½	18⅝
Bank of Boston	43⅝	44
Bank of NY	38¼	38⅝
Beatrice Foods	29⅛	29⅛
Bethlehem Steel	17½	17
Boeing	61½	60⅝
Boise Cascade	38	38¼
Borden	69	68⅛
Borg Warner	21	21½
Bristol Myers	56¼	55⅝
BP	25⅛	25⅝
Burlington Ind	26½	27
Burlington Nthn	52	52½
Burroughs	57⅜	57⅝
Campbell Soup	71⅛	71½
Canadian Pacific	42	41⅞
Caterpillar	30⅝	30⅛
Celanese	89⅝	89⅞
Central Soya	22	22
Champion	21	21
Chase Manhat	51⅛	51⅞
Chem Bank NY	37½	37⅝
Chevron	34½	34⅝
Chrysler	34⅝	34⅝
Cincorp	42½	42⅝
Clark Equip	29⅝	29⅝
Coca Cola	67⅛	66⅞
Colgate	24½	24⅞
CBS	104⅝	105½
Columbia Gas	27¼	26⅞
Combustion Eng	34½	34⅝
Comwth Edison	29½	29½
Cons Edison	31½	31
Cons Foods	37½	37⅝
Cons Power	6⅞	6¾
Control Data	31	32
Corning Glass	35¼	35⅝
CPC Intl	42½	42⅝
Crane	34½	33⅞
Crocker Nt	25½	25½
Crown Zeller	41	40⅝
Dart & Kraft	51⅞	51⅝
Deere	30⅝	30⅝
Delta Air	45½	45⅝
Detroit Edison	15⅝	15⅝
Digital Equip	99½	98
Disney	79⅝	79⅝
Dow Chemical	28⅝	28⅞
Dresser Ind	20	20½
Duke Power	32	31⅞
Du Pont	52⅜	52⅝
Eastern Air	6½	6
Eastman Kodak	67⅜	66⅝
Eaton Corp	51¼	51½
Emerson Elect	72	72⅜
Evans Prod	2⅜	2⅛
Exxon Corp	50½	50
Fed Dept Stores	56¼	58
Firestone	18⅛	17⅞
Fst Chicago	22⅞	22⅝
Fst Intrst Bncp	45½	46⅛
Fst Penn Corp	6⅜	6⅝
Ford	42⅝	42½
GAF Corp	30	29⅝
GTE Corp	40⅛	40⅝
Gen Corp	40	39½
Gen Dynamics	74	73½
Gen Electric	59⅝	61
Gen Foods	61¼	61¼
Gen Mills	56⅝	57
Gen Motors	74⅜	74½
Gen Pub Util NY	11⅞	11½
Genesco	5⅜	5⅞
Georgia Pacific	21¼	21⅜
Gillette	56¼	57⅛
Goodrich	29⅞	29
Goodyear	28⅝	28⅝
Gould Inc	23	23
Grace	40⅝	40¼
Gt Attic & Pacific	17⅛	16⅞
Greyhound	28	28
Grumman Corp	29⅞	28½
Gulf & West	33½	33⅝
Heinz H. J.	48¼	48½
Hercules	32¼	32⅝
Honeywell	55⅝	56⅛
IC Inds	32⅛	31⅞
Ingersoll	45	45½
Inland Steel	23⅛	23
IBM	125¼	124½
Int Harvester	9¼	9⅜
INCO	12½	12¾
Int Paper	49½	49⅝
Int Tel Tel	34¼	34⅝
Irving Bank	33⅝	33⅞
Jm Water	33½	34
Johnson & John	40¼	39⅝
Kaiser Alumin	13⅜	13⅝
Kerr McGee	31¼	31½
Kimberly Clark	46⅝	48
K Mart	33⅝	33⅞
Kroger	39⅝	39⅝
L.T.V. Corp	10¼	9⅞
Litton	67½	66¾
Lockheed	47¼	46⅝
Lucky Stores	19⅜	19⅞
Manuf Hanover	37¼	37⅝
Marine Midland	32⅛	32
Martin Marietta	52⅝	50⅞
McDonnell	76⅛	77¼
Mead	35⅞	40⅝
Merck	102½	105⅞
Minnesota Mng	81¼	83½
Mobil Oil	29	29
Monsanto	42⅜	42⅝
Morgan J. P.	46	47¼
Motorola	32¾	32⅞
NCR Corp	27⅛	27⅝
NL Industries	11⅛	11½
Nabisco	58¼	57⅞
Nat Distillers	30¼	29½
Nat Med Ent	25⅞	27⅜
Norfolk South	63¼	63
NW Bancorp	25⅞	25
Occidental Pet	28⅝	28½
Ogden	30⅛	30½
Olin Corp	30⅞	30⅝
Owens-Illinois	42¼	42½
Pacific Gas Elec	17¼	17
Pan Am	4⅝	4⅝
Penney J. C.	47⅝	47⅞
Pennzoil	47¼	47⅜
Pepsico	51⅞	51
Pfizer	42⅛	41⅞
Phelps Dodge	18⅝	18⅜
Philip Morris	92⅛	93
Phillips Petrol	39⅝	39⅝
Polaroid	29⅝	29⅝
PPG Ind	37⅞	37⅝
Procter Gamble	56	56⅝
Pub Ser El & Gas	25⅞	26⅛
Raytheon	45	44⅞
RCA Corp	40½	41¼
Reynolds Ind	84⅜	84½
Reynolds Metal	34⅝	34⅞
Rockwell Int	36	35⅞
Royal Dutch	54½	53¾
Safeways	32⅝	32⅝
SFE Sopac	26¼	26⅜
SCM	47½	47⅝
Schlumberger	36⅝	36⅞
Scott Paper	35⅞	35⅞
Seagram	39⅝	39¼
Sears Roebuck	34¾	34½
Shell Oil	59⅝	59½
Shell Trans	35	34⅞
Signal Co	32⅜	32⅞
Singer	34⅞	35⅛
Smithkline Beck	60⅜	60½
Sonry	17⅜	17½
Stn Cal Edison	24½	24½
Sperry Corp	49⅝	50¼
Std Oil Indiana	61⅞	62
Std Oil Ohio	47½	47⅝
Sterling Drug	31¾	32
Stevens J. P.	17¼	17⅜
Sun Comp	49¼	49¼
Teledyne	252½	252⅝
Tennaco	43¼	42⅝
Texaco	35	34⅞
Texas East Corp	31⅞	31⅜
Texas Inst	111¼	109½
Texas Utilities	26⅛	26⅛
Textron	43½	41⅝
TWA	32⅜	33½
Travelers Corp	42	41⅞
TRW Inc	75⅞	75⅝
UAL Inc	45¾	44⅝
Union Carbide	37⅝	37¼
Unocal	46⅝	46⅜
Un Pacific Corp	47½	47⅝
Unroyal	15⅝	15⅝
United Brands	13⅞	13¼
US Steel	27⅞	27⅝
Utd Technol	41⅝	40⅝
Wachovia	33	32⅝
Warner Lambert	38¼	38
Wells Fargo	53⅛	53
Westinghse Elec	29⅛	29⅝
Weyerhauser	27⅞	27⅞
Whirlpool	45⅝	46¼
Woolworth	40⅝	40⅜
Xerox Corp	43¼	42⅝
Zenith	20⅜	21

CANADIAN PRICES

Abitibi	55	55½
Alcan Alumin	37¼	37⅝
Algoma Steel	21⅜	21½
Bell Telephone	35⅝	35¾
Can Pacific	57⅞	57¾
Cominco	14⅜	14½
Cons Bathurst	17½	17⅝
Gulf Oil	18	18
Hawker/Sid Can	20⅝	21
Hudson Bay Min	7½	7½
Imasco	28½	27¾
Imperial Oil	49½	50⅝
Int Pipe	37½	37⅝
Massey-Fergsn	3.10	3.15
Royal Trustco	19½	19¼
Seagram	54⅝	55
Steel Co	20½	20⅝
Thomson N 'A'	58½	57⅞
Walker Hiram	29½	20⅝
WCT	15	15⅛

● Ex div a Asked c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Busy start to trading

The stock market rose in early, active trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

Prices opened higher, and the Dow Jones industrial average, which fell 0.22 on Tuesday to 1,259.72, was up 4.19 to 1,263.91 at 11 am.

The NYSE index was up 0.43 to 103.71 and advances led declines 754-412 among the 1,649 issues crossing the tape.

Analysts expected defence and related technology issues to show strength in reaction to a positive congressional vote on President Reagan's MX missile proposal.

The early volume leader was Sony, up ⅛ at 17⅞. Interfirst was unchanged at 10¼ and ATT was up ⅛ at 21½.

ITT Corp was up ⅝ at 34¼ and Motorola was up ⅜ at 33⅛.

Other notable issues Unocal, up ⅛ to 48; McGraw-Edison, up ¼ to 64; General Electric, up ¼ to 60; IBM up ½ to 125 ⅞; Digital Equipment, up ¼ to 101; and Data General up 1 to 44¼.

Ford was up ½ to 43 and Chrysler up ⅜ to 35.

● The credit markets opened slightly lower on the pressures of heavy supply amid continuing weak overall demand from institutional investors.

The markets benefited from an extremely low Federal Funds rate, below 8 per cent. However, analysts said that was almost certainly technical and likely to be countered by a Federal Reserve drain of temporary reserves later in the day.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Three Month Sterling					
Jun 85	88.45	88.45	88.41	88.46	1808
Sep 85	89.00	89.07	88.92	89.87	349
Dec 85	89.00	89.10	88.98	89.07	64
Mar 86	89.05	89.05	88.98	88.98	30
Jun 86	89.05	89.05	88.98	88.98	30
Previous day's total open interest 3502					
Three Month Eurodollar					
Jun 85	89.97	90.00	89.92	89.94	3952
Sep 85	89.31	89.34	89.28	89.30	903
Dec 85	88.89	88.91	88.86	88.88	128
Mar 86	88.61	88.61	88.56	88.57	17
Jun 86	88.33	88.33	88.33	88.32	12
Previous day's total open interest 15713					
US Treasury Bond					
Jun 85	68.29	68.29	68.19	68.25	1600
Sep 85	78	52	English Scot	67.28	0
Previous day's total open interest 2852					
Long Gilt					
Mar 85	105-29	105-29	105-25	105-26	2
Jun 85	106-04	106-31	106-04	106-27	2924
Sep 85	nt			110-25	0
Dec 85	nt			110-27	0
Mar 86	nt			110-16	0
Previous day's total open interest 3283					
FT-SE 100					
Mar 85	128.80	128.95	128.00	128.70	56
Jun 85	128.75	129.00	128.50	128.70	213
Sep 85	nt			129.20	0
Previous day's total open interest 1540					

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £'s per tonne; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; Gas-oil in US $ per metric tonne.
G W Joynson and Co report

RUBBER

Apr	745–715
May	755–725
Jun	765–735
Jul	765–745
Aug	785–755
Sep	785–765
Oct	805–775
Nov	815–785
Dec	825–795
Apr/Jun	755–725
Jun/Sep	785–755
Oct/Dec	815–785
Vol: One at five tonnes	

SUGAR

May	116.0–15.8
Aug	120.0–19.8
Oct	124.0–23.8
Dec	130.0–29.0
Mar	143.4–43.0
May	148.8–48.0
Aug	154.2–53.6
Vol: 1178	

COCOA

Mar	1988–93
May	2036–35
July	1998–97
Dec	1896–95
Mar	1890–85
May	1895–85
Vol: 421/1 5590	

COFFEE

Mar	2160–47
May	2204–00
Jly	224–42
Sep	2275–74
Nov	2290–85
Jan	2280–75
Mar	2248–41
Vol: 434/4136	

GAS OIL

Mar	24350–4300
Apr	23400–3350
May	23000–2975
Jun	22850–2575
Jly	22600–2700
Aug	23000–2700
Sep	23300–2700
Oct	23600–2700
Nov	23800–2500
Vol: Nil 2110	

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices; Official turnover figures
Prices in pounds per metric ton Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE

Cash	1151.0–1152.0
Three months	1171.50–1172.0
T/O	4625
Tone	Barely steady

STANDARD CATHODES

Cash	1154.0–1157.0
Three months	1172.0–1174.0
T/O	Nil
Tone	Idle

TIN STANDARD

Cash	9556–9560
Three months	9556–9560
T/O	520
Tone	Barely steady

TIN HIGH–GRADE

Cash	9556–9560
Three months	9581–9585
T/O	210
Tone	Quiet

LEAD

Cash	292.50–293.50
Three months	301.50–302.0
T/O	1800
Tone	Steady

ZINC STANDARD

Cash	774.0–778.0
Three months	734.0–735.0
T/O	3250
Tone	Barely steady

ZINC HIGH GRADE

Cash	775.0–780.0
Three months	765.0–769.0
T/O	525
Tone	Quiet

SILVER LARGE

Cash	541.5–542.5
Three months	562.5–562.0
T/O	20
Tone	Quiet

SILVER SMALL

Cash	541.5–542.5
Three months	560.5–562.0
T/O	Nil
Tone	Idle

ALUMINIUM

Cash	884.0–885.0
Three months	916.0–917.0
T/O	6300
Tone	Barely steady

NICKEL

Cash	4265–4275
Three months	4305–4310
T/O	780
Tone	Easier

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET IN US $ PER OZ
Gold Futures were untraded.

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION:
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 27

GB: Cattle, 94.31p per kg lw (+0.59).
GB: Sheep, 221.54p per kg est d c w (+9.38).
GB: Pigs, 79.82p per kg lw (+0.86).
England and Wales:
Cattle nos. down 1.8 per cent, ave. price, 94.78p (+0.83).
Sheep nos. down 0.5 per cent, ave. price, 227.14p (+7.09).
Pig nos. down 5.9 per cent, ave. price, 79.82p (+0.86).
Scotland:
Cattle nos. down 2.9 per cent, ave. price, 91.84p (+1.47).
Sheep nos. down 21.7 per cent, ave. price, 223.98p (+21.16).

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES MARKET

Month	Wheat Close	Barley Close
May	119.95	£117.00
Jul	£123.50	–0
Sep	£96.00	£98.60
Nov	£101.80	£102.30
Jan	£105.25	£105.50

Total lots traded
Wheat 149
Barley 70

APPOINTMENTS

Cement & Concrete Asssociation: Mr Andrew Stroud has been appointed director of information and marketing.

Gordon North (Builders): Mr Martin Hallwood and Mr Frank Pearson join the board.

APV Hall Commercial: Mr Alan Moor ahs been appointed managing director, with Mr George Laing as sales director and Mr Dennis Gilbert as engineering director.

Pertwee Group: Mr John Poulton has become group managing director.

Showerings: Mr Gray Olliver has been made marketing director.

British Telecom Business Systems: Mr Martin Glazebrook has been appointed chief executive.

Merrill Lynch Europe: Mr Gervase Buxton has joined Merrill Lynch Private Capital as managing director.

Marina & Port Services: Dr Douglas J. N. Currie has been appointed managing director.

White Horse Distillers: Mr Forbes McCallum will become a director on April 1.

Clydesdale Bank: Lord Arbuthnott and Mr Alexander Ledingham have joined the main board.

Midland Bank: Mr N G Blair has been made regional director, City and London East. He succeeds Mr W A Barnett.

Young Austen & Young: Mr Peter Sweeney has been made a director, Southern Region.

Grosvenor Group: Mr Gordon Hazzard has become executive deputy chairman.

Parambe: Mr Martin Wardman has been made a director.

Manufacturers Hanover: Mr Thomas A Binks has joined the board as an executive director.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Interbank money was very firm at 14½–⅝ per cent before the bank's early operation. Later in the morning it eased to 14⅜–½ per cent.

Rates switchbacked somewhat in the afternoon, dipping to 13½–13 per cent, rising again to 15–14 per cent, slipping to 12 per cent just before the finish, then closing on 13 per cent.

Base Rates %
Clearing Banks 13%
Finance House 12½

Discount Market Loans%
Overnight: High 14¼ Low 10
Week fixed: 13⅜–13⅛

Treasury Bills (Discount %)
Buying Selling
2 months 13⅜ 2 months 12⅝

Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)
1 month 13⅛–13¼ 2 months 13-12⅞
3 months 12⅝–12⅜ 6 months 11⅞–11¾

Trade Bills (Discount %)
1 month 13⅞ 2 months 13⅝
3 months 13⅝ 6 months 12½

Interbank (%)
Overnight: open 14¾–14¼ close 13
1 week 14⅝–14⅜ 6 months 12⅝–12⅜
1 month 13⅞–13½ 9 months 12⅝–12⅜
3 months 13⅛–13⅛ 12 months 12⅝–12⅜

Local Authority Deposits (%)
2 days 14⅞ 7 days 14⅝
1 month 13⅞ 3 months 13⅜
6 months 13⅜ 12 months 12⅞

Local Authority Bonds (%)
1 month 14⅛–14⅜ 2 months 14-13⅞
3 months 14-13⅝ 6 months 13⅞–13⅝
9 months 13-12⅞ 12 months 12⅝–12⅜

Sterling CDs (%)
1 month 13⅜–13⅝ 3 months 13⅛–13⅜
5 months 12⅝–12⅞ 12 months 12⅜–11⅝

Periods came down by¾ to ⅝ per cent, the steeper declines in the area of one to three months as base rate hopes were fanned by a rising pound.

Local authorities kept chiefly to call and notice money, though there were reports of some sizable deals seen in mortgages at 12 months.

Dollar CDs (%)
1 month 8.75-8.85 3 months 9.00-8.90
6 months 9.50-9.40 12 months 10.30-10.20

EURO-CURRENCY DEPOSITS %

Dollar		call	8⅝–7⅞
7 days	8¹¹₁₆–8⅝	1 month	8⅝–7¹⁵₁₆
3 months	9⅛–8¹⅞	6 months	9⅛–8⅝
Deutschemark		call	5⅞–4½
7 days	5¼–5⅛	1 month	5¹¹₁₆–5⅝
3 months	5¹³₁₆–5¹¹₁₆	6 months	6⅛–6
French Franc		call	11-10
7 days	10¹¹₁₆–10⅝	1 month	8¹⁵₁₆–8¹³₁₆
3 months	8¹⅞–8¹¹₁₆	6 months	7-6⅞
Swiss Franc		call	1¼–1
7 days	5¼–5⅛	1 month	5¼–5⅛
3 months	5¹³₁₆–5¹¹₁₆	6 months	5¹⅛–5¹₁₆
Yen		call	6¼–5⅞
7 days	7-6⅞	1 month	6¼–6⅛
3 months	6¹¹₁₆–6¹³₁₆	6 months	6¹⅛–6¹₁₆

GOLD

Krugerrand* (per coin): $339–340.50 (£277–278)
Sovereigns* (new): $77–78.50 (£63–64)
*Excludes VAT

ECGD

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for interest period 6 February 1985, to 5 March, 1985, inclusive: 13.883 per cent.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling went ahead by leaps and bounds on the currency markets, closing more than five cents ahead against the dollar at $1.2320 (1.1812).

At the close the UK trade weighted index had surged to 77.6, from 75.7.

The pound also made strides against the mark to DM3.8568 (3.7948).

The dollar found few friends, with dealers reporting little buying. It fell to DM3.1275 against the mark (3.2090) and to 2.655 in terms of the Swiss franc (2.718).

In franc terms the dollar fell back 24½ centimes to 9.56.

Overnight selling brought the dollar down two cents against the pound even before London officially opened.

The market was concerned about the US banking system, with one big Texas bank facing problems with its energy loans.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

	Market rates day's range March 27	Market rates close March 27	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.1970-1.2335	$1.2310-1.2330	0.53-0.50c prem	1.22-1.17c prem
Montreal	$1.6420-1.6860	$1.6791-1.6855	0.43-0.41c prem	1.03-0.99c prem
Amsterdam	4.2768-4.3865fl	4.3504-4.3638fl	3½-2½c prem	7¼-6¼c prem
Brussels	76.12-78.08f	77.50-77.75f	30-16c prem	64-45c prem
Copenhagen	13.5720-13.8190k	13.7687-13.8187k	4-2½ore prem	9¼-7¼ore prem
Dublin	1.2195-1.2378p	1.2348-1.2356p	6 prem-1p disc	10 prem-35p disc
Frankfurt	3.7881-3.8633m	3.8518-3.8618m	3-2pf prem	7¾-6¾pf prem
Lisbon	211.20-220.71e	216.66-220.71e	145-515e disc	485-1489e disc
Madrid	210.84-215.20p	214.07-15.04p	25-5p prem	20 prem-15p disc
Milan	2410.60-2474.40lr	2458.31-2477.93lr	2 prem-4lr disc	6-12lr disc
Oslo	10.9040-11.1480k	11.0955-11.1430k	2¼-1¼ore prem	5¼-3¼ore prem
Paris	11.5740-11.8720f	11.7807-11.8245f	2¾-2¼c prem	7¼-6¼c prem
Stockholm	10.9260-11.1722k	11.1295-11.1722k	3-4ore prem	1-4ore prem
Tokyo	303.09-311.20y	310.27-311.15y	2¼-1¼y prem	5¼-4¼y prem
Vienna	26.80-27.20sch	27.05-27.15sch	17-15¼gro prem	43½-40¼gro prem
Zurich	3.2923-3.2740f	3.2651-3.2740f	2¾-1¾c prem	6¾-5¾c prem

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up 1.9 at 77.8 (day's range 76.8-77.8).

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina peso*	405.60–406.31
Australia dollar	1.7246–1.7281
Bahrain dinar	0.4515–0.4555
Brazil cruzeiro*	5243.11–5271.78
Cyprus pound	0.7825–0.7725
Finland markka	7.9350–7.9750
Greece drachma	163.80–165.80
Hong Kong dollar	9.5102–9.5199
India rupee	15.15–15.35
Iraq dinar	nq
Kuwait Dinar (KD)	0.3825–0.3865
Malaysia dollar	3.0871–3.0958
Mexico peso	280–285
New Zealand dollar	2.6354–2.6606
Saudi Arabia riyal	4.32–4.36
Singapore dollar	2.7108–2.7192
South Africa rand	2.3184–2.3248
United Arab Emirates dirham	4.3970–4.4370

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	0.9850–0.9870
Singapore	2.2220–2.2270
Malaysia	2.5300–2.5360
Australia	0.7067–0.7075
Canada	1.3665–1.3685
Sweden	9.0600–9.0650
Norway	8.0400–8.0530
Denmark	11.2800–11.2700
West Germany	3.1410–3.1430
Switzerland	2.6620–2.6650
Netherlands	3.5500–3.5550
France	9.8100–9.8300
Japan	252.70–252.90
Italy	2007.–2010
Belgium(Comm)	63.10–63.20
Hong Kong	7.7985–7.8000
Portugal	175.–177
Spain	173.90–174.30
Austria	21.98–22.02

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div	Yld %	P/E
180	119	Aberdeen	172	–1	7.5	4.3	..
191	56	Alliss	98		2.0b	2.1	..
288	436	Alliance	698	•	19	24.8	3.9
356	88½	Amer Trust	142	•	4.5	3.2	..
262	216	Anly Assoc Sec	224	• •	8.5	3.7	..
145	103	Ashdown	137	•	3.9	2.8	..
120	75	Atlantic Assets	108		0.7	0.7	..
102	67	Bankers	96		3.5	3.6	..
194	139	Berry	178		5.4	3.0	..
178	117	Border & Sthrn	163		4.7	2.9	..
107	79	Br Amer Gen	100		3.7	3.5	..
215	140½	Br Assets	195		9.7b	5.0	..
30½	22½	Br Empire Sec	27½		1.3	4.7	..
203	291	British Inv	290		11.3b	3.9	..
78	55	Brunner	71		2.9	4.0	..
89	60	Charter Agency	85		3.1b	3.6	..
565	418	Continental	550		24.7b	3.9	..
178	125	Crescent Japan	164	•	1.1	0.7	..
485	275	Delta	430		10.2	2.3	..
128	89	Derby Inc	103				
104	89	Dd Corp	102				
229	241	Drayton Cons	286		12.7	4.4	..
148	88	Drayton Far East	135	• •	1.6	1.2	..
428	282	Drayton Japan	398	• •	3.6	0.9	..
412	286	Drayton Premier	394	• •	10.2	2.6	..
180	140	Dundee Lon	178	•	8.7	4.9	..
235	148	Edin Amer Asset	202		1.3	0.6	..
117	87	Edinburgh	116	•	3.7	3.4	..
232	210	Electric Gen	228	•	4.8b	1.7	..
202	192	English Int	200	•	9.9b	4.9	..
78	52	English Scot	70	• •	3.1	2.5	..
196½	98	English NY	187	• •	3.6	3.3	..
97	88	F & C Alliance	90		3.4	3.8	..
167	117	F&C Pacific	157		5.8b	3.8	..
210	162	Fleming	208	•	9.9	4.7	..
279	194	First Scot Amer	260	• •	9.2b	3.6	..
230	182	First Us Dev	199	•	8	4.0	..
350	342	Fleming American	316	• •	15	7.5	..
238	185	Fleming Clever	224	•	12.4	4.9	..
208	188	Fleming Enterprise	200	• •	11.1	4.4	..
295	180	Fleming Far East	290	• •	2.9	1.0	..
108	83	Fleming Fledgling	98	•	3.8	3.3	..
380	360	Fleming Japan	380	• •	4.3	1.1	..
118	80	Fleming Mercantile	112	• •	4.5	4.0	..
122	82	Fleming Overseas	114	• •	3.3b	2.9	..
151	119½	Fleming Tech	151	• •	3.1	2.1	..
324	215	Fleming Universal	285	• •	9.8	3.2	..
148	98	For Col	136	•	3.6	2.7	..
121	88	GSC Capital	109	–3			..
72.6	17.1	Australian	19.5	20.7	0.45		
44.0	34.0	British Assets	43.7	44.5a	0.52		
39.5	24.9	Do Dist	39.7	41.1	0.52		
57.7	45.1	Caledonian	57.7	60.2	0.61		
31.6	23.3	Extra Income	30.8	32.2	1.64		
11.1	8.1	Far Eastern	11.1	11.5	0.79		
11.1	8.8	Do Accum	11.1	11.5	0.79		
11.7	8.8	Global Fund	10.2	11.1	0.77		
11.1	8.8	Do Dist	10.2	11.1	0.77		
42.7	32.7	Gt Northern	42.7	44.8	1.18		
10.7	8.2	High Income	10.7	10.8	0.98		
11.7	8.9	Do Accum	11.7	11.8	0.98		
73.1	57.1	Income	73.1	77.0	0.16		
78.1	61.7	Japan Trust	77.3	79.8	0.16		
71.1	57.5	Special Sits	71.1	74.8	0.16		
69.1	58.6	UK Sm Co Rec	64.5	67.2	1.09		
77	30.0	London Income	41.0	42.0	19.08		
66.1	30.0	UK Special opps	66.1	70.6	2.56		
276.6	116.5	Quantrell	276.6	291.0	1.08		
251.3	200.5	Capital Fnd (3)	251.3	270.1	7.62		
208.8	143.9	Income Fnd (3)	208.8	212.3	9.62		
247.5	195.5	Nth Amer Fnd	247.5	265.8	7.62		
1		Exempt Gilts Unit Trust Managers Ltd.					
1		Exempt Fixed Interest					
1		Exempt Managed					
1		Exempt Pacific					
1		Exempt Property					
1		Exempt Special Sits					
1		Exempt UK Equity					
1		Exempt US Equity					
1		Exempt

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Troubled TI holds steady as Babcock bid is expected

By Derek Pain

Babcock International, the engineering group, which yesterday announced much better than expected profits, is thought to be contemplating a takeover bid for the troubled **TI Group** which produced disappointing results this month.

Lord King, Babcock's chairman, apparently feels that the group's City image would be improved if it could become more involved in consumer products.

And TI, which many feel would welcome a bidder at the right price, would satisfy such an ambition with its array of products ranging from Raleigh cycles to Tower housewares.

If Babcok is planning a TI assault, it could not have picked a better time. At one time there were hopes that the group would record profits of around £35 million. In the event it achieved £19 million, up a mere £2.7 million, against £78 million in the late 1970s.

Lord King and his team believes it would be possible to improve on the TI performance. And Babcock can be expected to pursue its TI ambitions.

Babcock's profits, despite the erosion of the miners' strike, came out at £31.6 million (£34.1 million). The shares rose 8p to 152p. TI shares, after slipping 2p, closed unchanged at 226p.

For the second successive day the stock market was dominated by a near deluge of company results. Although the prancing pound helped government stocks, it also tended to clip the shares of leading overseas earners.

Jaguar, for example, tumbled 18p to 299p; **BAT Industries**, despite scintillating figures, fell 25p to 328p; **Distillers Co.**, with the added problem of a large line of stock which is taking a long time to clear, slipped another 1p to 286p. **Imperial Chemical Industries**, which has had a good run lately, fell 20p to 791p.

With sterling enjoying a spectacular day against the dollar, gilts recorded gains of up to £½. But inflations gilts had another poor day, suffering falls of up to £⅞.

Standard Telephones and Cables offered a little comfort to the market when it disclosed that its controversial rights issue had been 93 per cent taken up. STC shares displayed their relief with a 6p gain to 204p. The rights price was 190p.

The FT 30-share index closed 2.7 points lower at 979.3 after starting the day with a modest gain. It has fallen 13.1 points in the opening three days of the current three-week account.

The more broadly based FT SE share index closed 2.4 points off at 1,288.0.

Thorn EMI remained overshadowed by the problems at its Inmos offshoot. The shares at one time were down to 398p, a fall of 23p since *The Times* disclosed market worries over the microelectronic business. They closed at 402p.

Ranks Hovis McDougall, the bread group, finished 4p down at 154p while **Hanson Trust**, after the "buy" signal from Laing and Cruickshank, the broker, gained 2p to 213p. Other FT 30 index constituents to make headway included **British Telecom**, up to a 142p peak, a 3½p gain on the day, following strong Far Eastern interest. The transatlantic favourite **Beecham Group** advanced 10p to 380p.

Life insurances were helped by better-than-expected figures from **Prudential Assurance**. Among composities, **Commercial Union** rost 5p to 205p. The BAT treatment of Eagle Star's profits, which threw up an extra £95 million, was good for composities as analysts contemplated other insurers adopting the same course.

British Aerospace rose 15p to 403p on satisfaction with its figures and **Morgan Crucible** lost 12p to 213p on its £20 million cash call.

The £120 million Norcros bid for UBM left Norcross at 154p, down 13p, and UMB up 27p at 187p.

Turriff Corporation gained 10p to 340p on the continuing interest of Mr Christopher Selmes, the financier.

Waring and Gillow, the stores group, sliped 5p to 150p on the big Hopcastle, the consortium led by Mr Cyril Spencer.

Oil shares were mixed although **Great Western Resources** spurted 25p to 260p on hopes that a cheerful statement will be made at the shareholders' meeting today. Marinex rose 6p to 86p on speculation of a bid. **Canada Northwest Energy** has lifted its shareholding to 563p by buying a further 2.1 million shares.

Allied-Lyons, the brewing group, fell a further 1p to 173p. L. Messel and Co. the broker, expects a statement soon on further rationalization moves in the group's brewing division. The changes could lead to a substantial below the line write off.

Pentland Industries, at one time up 8p to 546p on a broker's circular, closed only 2p higher at 540p.

Christies International the auctioneer, shrugged off the stronger pound. With figures due on Tuesday, it gained 12p to 625p. **Pearson**, also reporting on Tuesday, was 7p higher at 696p.

The bid from Park Place Investment lifted **Trident Computers** 5p to 76p.

Jantar, the mining group, acheived the day's best gain, up 11p at 24p on its dramatic trading turnaround – profits of £223,000 against £36,000 loss. The dividend is 2.5pj a share compared with 0.5p.

J. Wilkes came in for a speculative run, gaining 25p to 255p, and **Miss World** managed a 25p gain to 270p after its shareholders' meeting.

European Ferries stirred on vague talk of a stake builder. The shares gained 6p to 151p.

Debenhams, with a little help from the emergence of a bid for Waring and Gillow, came in for attention. Stories of a bid – Harris Queensway or Heron Corporation – moved the shares 7p higher to 214p. But other stores were firm, helped by interest rate optimism.

Banks were dull with **Royal Bank of Scotland** down 8p as bid hopes faded.

Gold shares rose by $1 to $5.

Shares of Yarrow engineering group rose 20p to a 500p peak yesterday, as hopes grew that the European Court of Human Rights will support the company's claim for much improved compensation for the nationalization of its shipyard in 1977. Yarrow received £6 million for its operation which this week the Government sold to the General Electric Company for £34 million. The Yarrow claim should be heard in June.

Crusts, the restaurant chain being groomed for a USM debut later this year, has paid £800,000 in cash and convertible loan stock for the 53-bedroom Royal Norfolk Hotel at Bognor Regis, Sussex. The company has announced interim profits of £101,000, up 97 per cent, and expects year's sales of £4 million. The shares, traded under the special dealing rule, are at a 150p peak.

COMPANY NEWS

● **TRIDENT COMPUTER SERVICES:** Trident and Park Place investments have agreed terms on which a recommended offer will be made by Park Place for Trident. Park Place and Trident have receive irrevocable undertakings to accept the offer for 1.95 million ordinary shares in Trident, representing 78 per cent of the issued captial of Trident. Terms: one new Park Place ordinary for every two Trident ordinary.

● **BIOMECHANICS INTERNATIONAL:** Turnover £69,130 (£138,738) for year 1984.

● **CHARTERHALL:** Half-year to Dec. 31, compared with previous year. Int. div. 0.6p (0.6p for full yr). Figs. in £000. Turnover 8,175 (3,774). Pretax profit 3,074 (597). Tax 1,100 (6). EPS 3.45p (1.31p).

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
BTS Group 10p Ord (82pa)	78
Bedford (Wm) 5p Ord (a*)	185–7
Bluebird Toys 10p Ord (80a)	138
Cons Tern Inv 20p Ord (105a)	95
Crown Int Prod 10p Ord (60a)	80–5
Cullen's Hldgs 10p Ord	122
German Smaller Co's Inv Units	102+2
Hilsdown Hldgs 10p Ord*	158
Mann & Co 20p Ord (145)	156
Mayhew Foods 10p Ord (100a)	123+2
Memcom Int 10p Ord (a)	295
Osborne & Little 5p Ord (125a)	203
Pacific Assets Tst 50p Ord (100)	76
Pepe Group 10p Ord (100a)	95–3
Sims Catering Bunch 5p Ord (128a)	153–2
Spatax Television 25p Ord (68a)	106+2
Synapse Comp Serv 5p Ord (174a)	215
Whitworth's Food 5p Ord (95a)	113

Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities, * by tender.

Traded option highlights

BAT Industries and BT dominated the traded options market yesterday. All-told there were 7,191 bargains, just over 5,000 calls and 2,129 puts.

Most active was BAT. It attracted 865 calls and 857 puts. BT managed 1,100 calls and 93 puts.

Gilt contracts totted up to 360 – 241 of them calls.

صكذا من الاصل

SOVEREIGN OIL & GAS PLC

Year ended 31st December	1984 (Unaudited) £million	1983 £million
● TURNOVER	54.6	6.8
● PRE-TAX PROFITS	18.2	3.4
● POST-TAX PROFITS	10.6	3.4
● EARNINGS PER SHARE	28.32p	9.33p

- South Brae reaches peak production
- North Brae development on target for 1988
- East Brae delineation confirms commerciality
- Central Brae successfully appraised
- Ninth round cash tender block 2/20 awarded
- 'Sovereign Explorer' encounters gas in frontier drilling
- Emerald production test increases confidence for development
- Claymore acquisition increases total production to 8,000 barrels/day

If you would like a copy of the 1984 Annual Report, which will be published in early May, please fill in the coupon below and send it to:
The Company Secretary, Sovereign Oil & Gas PLC,
Portland House, Stag Place, London SW1E 5BH
Name
Address
728/3

SOVEREIGN

VG INSTRUMENTS PLC

RESULTS – 1984

£m	1984	1983
Turnover	50.9	38.6
Profit before taxation	10.6	7.3
Profit attributable to shareholders	5.7	3.9
Earnings per share	11.75p	7.90p

1984 was a successful year for the Company and the Directors are pleased to announce a final dividend of 1.20p per share.

Copies of the Annual Report will be available shortly from the Secretary, 29 Brighton Road, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 6AE.

BABCOCK INTERNATIONAL PLC. ANNUAL RESULTS FOR 1984

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
for the financial year ended 30th December 1984

	1984 £000	1983 £000
Turnover	1,129,764	1,016,283
Trading Profit	31,487	37,411
Profit on Ordinary Activities before Taxation	31,600	34,082
Profit for the Financial Year (1983 loss)	16,411	(6,959)
Retained Profit for the Year (1983 loss)	6,986	(15,546)
Earnings per ordinary share	16.2p	17.6p

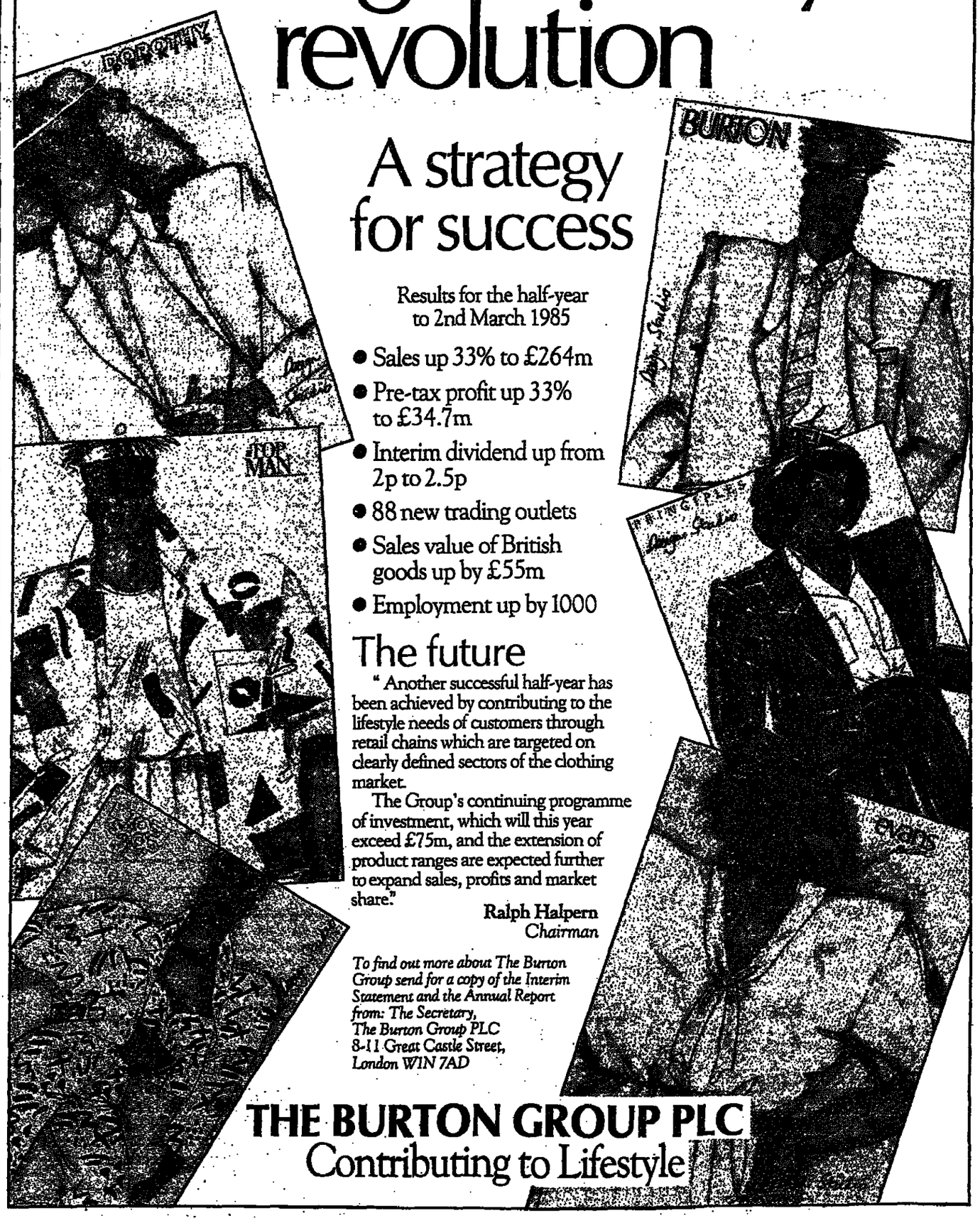
MAJOR POINTS FROM 1984

- Profitability increased in USA
- Impact of miners' strike was severe in UK
- Cost reduction continues
- Orders for 1984 exceeded £1 bn

Babcock International plc,
Cleveland House,
St James's Square,
London SW1Y 4LN.

Babcock

Leading the lifestyle revolution



A strategy for success

Results for the half-year to 2nd March 1985

- Sales up 33% to £264m
- Pre-tax profit up 33% to £34.7m
- Interim dividend up from 2p to 2.5p
- 88 new trading outlets
- Sales value of British goods up by £55m
- Employment up by 1000

The future

"Another successful half-year has been achieved by contributing to the lifestyle needs of customers through retail chains which are targeted on clearly defined sectors of the clothing market.

The Group's continuing programme of investment, which will this year exceed £75m, and the extension of product ranges are expected further to expand sales, profits and market share."

Ralph Halpern
Chairman

To find out more about The Burton Group send for a copy of the Interim Statement and the Annual Report from: The Secretary, The Burton Group PLC 8-11 Great Castle Street, London W1N 7AD

THE BURTON GROUP PLC
Contributing to Lifestyle

COATS PATONS PLC

1984 RESULTS AND FINAL DIVIDEND

We continue to make excellent progress with pre-tax profit breaking through the £100m level for the first time, 26% higher than 1983.

Earnings for ordinary shareholders increased by 35% and with no extraordinary items, profit for the year at £64.7m is double last year's level.

Final dividend increases by 20% giving a 17% increase for the year.

We look forward to 1985 with confidence.

HIGHLIGHTS

	1984 £ millions	1983 £ millions
Turnover	1,076.0	888.0
Trading Profit	121.8	94.5
Pre-tax Profit	109.8	87.0
Capital Expenditure U.K.	26.7	17.4
Total	69.9	49.1
Net cash flow	(27.3)	(8.8)
Gearing	31%	26%
Earnings per share	23.4p	17.3p
C.C. Earnings per share	12.5p	7.0p

The figures for the year to 31st December 1984 are abridged from the Group's full accounts which will be filed with the Registrar of Companies after the Annual General Meeting.
The historical cost accounts have received an unqualified auditors' report.

The directors recommend an increased final dividend of 3.85p per share (1983 : 3.2p) which together with the interim dividend of 1.65p (1983 : 1.5p) amounts to 5.5p per share (1983 : 4.7p). This dividend will be payable on 1st July to shareholders on the register on 10th May 1985.

"With some recovery expected in the U.S.A., we look forward to 1985 with confidence, provided there are no substantial adverse exchange movements of the major currencies in which we trade."

W. D. Coats, Chairman

The Annual Report will be posted to shareholders on 1st May, 1985. Further copies will be available from The Secretary, Coats Patons PLC, 155 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5PA.

COMPANY NEWS

Carpets in profit again

Carpets International returned to the black in 1984 with pretax profits of £1.42 million against a loss of £630,000. Turnover fell from £81.44 million to £73.25 million.

The tax charge was down from £1.27 million to £910,00. Earnings per share were 4.5p compared with a loss per share of 7.9p. Carpets' shares lost ½p to 49½p.

● MINERALS AND RESOURCES CORP: Half-year to Dec 31. Figures in millions of dollars. Earnings from opertions 28.5 (about £24 million), against 33.7. Intrim dividend six cents. Net profit 22 (205.7). Minorities 600,000 (same). Share of undistributed earnings 34.5 (42.3). Extraordinary items (loss) 40.4 (profit 130.3). Extraordinary loss represents equity share of Charter Consolidated extraordinary losses. The company's financial position remained strong with shareholders' equity value at 1.9 billion on Dec 31 dept amounting to 36 dlrs. The company has predicted reduced earnings for the year compared with last year's 53.1 but experts to maintain the total dividend at last year's level.

● DRG: Results for 1984. Total dividend 7.5p (6.5p). Figs. in millions of pounds. Turnover 605.7 (543.4). Operating profit 32 (22.6), comprising UK 22 (16.7) and overseas 10 (5.9). Pretax profit 26 (16.1). The board states that the company has strengthened its management, improved the financial position and the quality of the business portfolio, and looks to progress both by organic growth and through acquisition which it is actively seeking in related areas.

● PRESSAC HOLDINGS: Results for six months to January 31. Interim dividend 0.7p (0.7p). (Figures in £000). Turnover 8895 (9621). Pretax profit 411 (1002). Tax 174 (393) Minority 15 (credit 41) after attributable 222 (650). Earnings per share 2.52p (7.86p).

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Adam & Company	13½%
Barclays	13½%
BCCI	13½%
Citibank Savings	†12½%
Consolidated Crds	14%
Continental Trust	13½%
C. Hoare & Co	*13½%
Lloyds Bank	13½%
Midland Bank	13½%
Nat Westminster	13½%
TSB	13½%
Williams & Glyn's	13½%
Citibank NA	14%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £2,000, 10½%. £2,000 up to £10,000, 11½%. £10,000 up to £50,000, 11½%. £50,000 and over, 12%.

TEMPUS

Eagle-eyed accountants find £95m for BAT

BAT Industries could hardly have picked a worse day to announce its 1984 figures, which included a controversial change in accounting policy for its Eagle Star subsidiary. As a company whose fortunes closely follow that of the dollar, the dramatic rise in sterling was always going to take its toll on the share price.

To add to the disquiet, the change in accounting, which added £95 million to Eagle Star's profits, generated a lot of wariness. The net effect was that the share price dropped 25p to 328p.

The reaction must have been a little galling for BAT. Even after stripping out the extra £95 million, profits were still at the top end of expectations. The reported pretax figure of £1,405 million was 44 per cent up on £979 million in 1983. There was a hefty £205 million benefit from currency translations, but this apart, and leaving out acquisitions, the company still showed genuine growth of 10 per cent.

However, it is the change in accounting policy which is likely to provide some of the most heated debate among City analysts. BAT has decided that in future it will recognize raalized gains and unrealized increases in the investment portfolio, based on a five-year moving average, as income.

On balance, the benefit of greater disclosure which is now made in Eagle Star's accounts must outweigh the criticism that this is simply a ploy by BAT to make its investment in Eagle Star look a little better.

Certainly, Eagle Star had a poor year but this investment must be judged on the longer term.

On fundamentals, the shares still look cheap. There is an argument for profit-taking but on a long-term view BAT will not disappoint.

Burton Group

Burton Group wrapped up its interim figures in modern retail jargon ("contributing to the lifestyle needs of customers") and backed them with some sharp-suited razzmatazz. But the Technicolor backing was hardly necessary; the figures are very good.

Interim profits are ahead by a third to £33 million, after a similar percentage sales gain. Trading margins rose nearly half of one per cent to 13.1 per cent, contributing an extra £1 million to profits. A full year outcome of £75 million looks quite feasible.

Over the medium term, Mr Ralph Halpern, Burton chairman and saviour, has set himself some very ambitious targets. The opening programme envisages a total chain of some 1,650 shops – up 58 per cent on current levels – and annual profits of well over £100 million by the late eighties, assuming profits per shop of over £60,000.

Whether the group meets its targets via organic growth is another matter. First-half volume gains in sales are down quite sharply to 11 per cent, while short-term debt has risen, and may total £20 million by the year-end. Net interest has shown a downturn into the red of £1.4 million and the cost of rapid expansion may be growing. Mr Halpern's trading gearing is intriguing.

This places the group's categoric refusal to countenance higher short-term debt in specific context. Will the group be tempted to use its high-valued paper either to raise fresh capital, or to buy rival retail chains comparatively cheaply? Perhaps even a vendor placing is on the way.

Prudential

The Prudential Corporation sprang no big surprises in its year-end results. Its pretax profit fell 22 per cent from £101 million in 1983 to £78 million last year, this was much as expected, considering the depressing insurance market conditions.

The stock market, however, showed signs of excitement and the Pru's shares rose from 593p to 616p. An unexpectedly generaous 22.5p dividend for the year, up 3.5p from 1983 may have helped.

The dividend payment is costing £67 million but the company justifies it on the grounds of a strong solvency margin of 66 per cent, an advance in long-term profits and strengthening premium rates.

Prudential Assurance, Britain's largest life assurance company, had another good year with premium income on ordinary business rising 14 per cent to £521.6 million. Overall, long term business showed an increase in premium income of 19 per cent to £1.8 billion, with shareholders' profits up from £89.3 million to £136.1 million.

The Pru's swingeing increases in many of its household insurance premium rates last year gave a foretaste of its problems. At the end of the year British trading profits had risen from £2.1 million to £30.2 million. General insurance business produced a sharply increased loss of £80 million compared with £7.6 million in 1983.

Much of this stemmed from Mercantile & General, the reinsurance arm where losses trebled to £62.4 million. This was despite a more selective approach to new business.

Babcock

Babcock makes the point that with a little good fortune the results for 1984 might have been entirely different from the £2.5 million downturn to £31.6 million. The miners' strike may well have cost the group some £6.5 million in lost profit, mainly because of orders not placed or deferred.

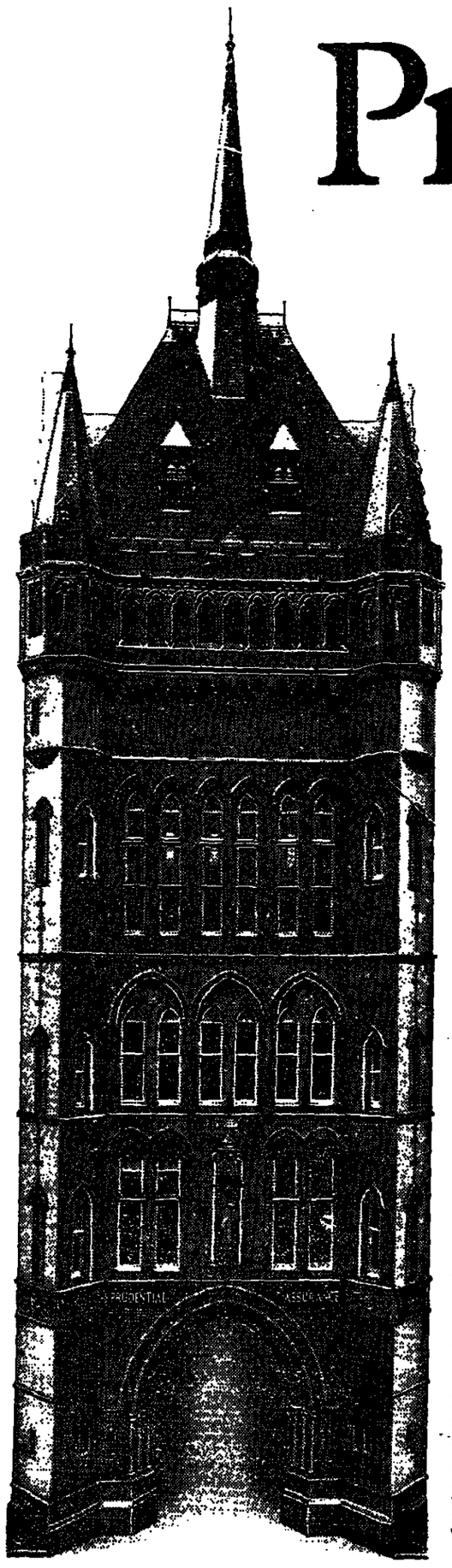
Contract provisions and redundancy charges, taken above the line, came to around £8 million. US profits pushed ahead by £5 million to £15.4 million, but those figures contain £6 million of losses from badly performing American subsidiaries.

The target profits figure could have been £50 million, but that estimate remains fairly notional. Heavy engineering multinational, like Babcock, tend to stumble here and there every year.

The shares rose 9p yesterday to 153p on hopes that mining losses will be recouped this year. Bid and merger potential is in the rating for nothing.

Prudential Corporation

Group Results 1984



Total profits before tax in 1984 were £78.0m compared with £101.1m in 1983. There was a sharp increase in long-term profits but this was more than offset by substantial general insurance trading losses in two major divisions, United Kingdom and Mercantile & General.
The directors have declared an increased final dividend of 15.0p per share, making a total of 22.5p for the year compared with 19.0p in 1983. The increase reflects the advance in long-term profits, the strength of the Group's financial position and our view of prospects for the future.

		1984 £m	1983 £m
Long-term Business:	Premium income	1,837.5	1,542.8
	Surplus for distribution	1,099.9	753.5
	Policyholders' bonuses	1,011.3	694.5
	Shareholders' profit before tax	136.1*	89.3
General Insurance:	Premiums written	788.5	690.3
	Underwriting result	(161.4)*	(76.9)
	Investment income	81.5	69.3
	Trading profit (loss) before tax	(79.9)	(7.6)
Shareholders' Other Income:	Investment income	24.5	20.7
	Miscellaneous net income	0.1	0.8
	Expenses	(2.8)	(2.1)
	Other income before tax	21.8	19.4
Profit and Loss Account Summary:	Profit before tax from:		
	Long-term business	136.1	89.3
	General insurance	(79.9)	(7.6)
	Shareholders' other income	21.8	19.4
	Total profit before tax	78.0	101.1
	Tax	(31.9)	(31.6)
	Minority interests	(0.9)	(0.6)
	Profit attributable to shareholders	45.2	68.9
Earnings per share		15.1p	23.1p
Dividend per share		22.5p	19.0p

**There are special features in these items, which are explained and quantified in the text.*
1. This year, for the first time, shareholders' long-term profits are shown gross of the attributable tax. 1983 figures have been restated to reflect this and also a change in group accounting policy in 1984 in relation to reserving for accident non-proportional reinsurance business (see text).
2. The abridged income statement for 1984 is an extract from the latest accounts. These accounts have not yet been delivered to the Registrar of Companies, nor have the auditors reported on them.

Long-Term Business
We have again made substantial increases in benefits payable on UK with-profits policies. We have also converted a substantial part of the terminal bonus element on long standing assurance policies to reversionary form, to give policyholders greater certainty as to the eventual proceeds under their policies. The total value of bonuses declared world-wide exceeded £1bn. Shareholders' profit before tax from long-term business was 52% higher at £136.1m. This includes a largely non-recurrent amount of £24.0m before tax at Prudential Assurance resulting from the conversion of terminal bonuses to reversionary form.

General Insurance Business
The general insurance trading loss before tax was sharply higher at £79.9m. Total premiums written rose by 14% in sterling terms, or 7% adjusted for exchange rate movements.

	Premiums written		Underwriting result		Investment income		Trading profit (loss) before tax	
	1984 £m	1983 £m	1984 £m	1983 £m	1984 £m	1983 £m	1984 £m	1983 £m
UK Division	279.0	240.7	(54.8)	(25.6)	24.6	23.5	(30.2)	(2.1)
Overseas Division:								
Canada	100.9	92.1	(1.3)	4.4	9.3	8.0	8.0	12.4
EEC	51.2	42.2	(3.9)	(4.2)	7.5	6.3	3.6	2.1
Other Countries	19.5	17.6	(0.5)	(2.3)	1.6	1.5	1.1	(0.8)
London Market-Overseas	34.8	33.2	(5.8)	(5.8)	4.7	3.4	(1.1)	(2.4)
Total Overseas	206.4	185.1	(11.5)	(7.9)	23.1	19.2	11.6	11.3
Marine and Aviation	26.2	20.9	(1.5)	(3.5)	2.6	2.4	1.1	(1.1)
Mercantile & General	276.9	243.6	(93.6)	(39.9)	31.2	24.2	(62.4)	(15.7)
Total	788.5	690.3	(161.4)	(76.9)	81.5	69.3	(79.9)	(7.6)

In the United Kingdom the major features of the £30.2m trading loss before tax were significant increases in the number of claims in most classes of business and bad weather claims of some £8.5m in the first quarter of the year.

In the Overseas Division there was a very satisfactory trading profit of £11.6m before tax.

Mercantile & General
The sharply higher trading loss of £62.4m before tax has arisen principally on business written in earlier years. Following a thorough review of reserving policy we have strengthened the basis on which we estimate the required level of claims reserves. We have also decided to discount reserves for non-proportional accident business in order to reflect the long average time taken to settle claims which is characteristic of this class of business.

The effect of discounting has been to reduce the reported underwriting loss for 1984 by some £20m. The corresponding figure for 1983 would have been £3m and is reflected in the restated 1983 results. During the treaty renewal season at the end of 1984 we improved still further the terms on which we were prepared to continue to write business. Together with our sound reserves, this provides a basis for recovery.

Capital Resources
The total capital resources of the Group at the end of 1984 amounted to £535m, equivalent to 66% of the general insurance premium income.

Copies of the Report and Accounts will be available on 1 May 1985.
Prudential Corporation plc, 142 Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH

PRUDENTIAL CORPORATION

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A B·A·T Industries Report
Preliminary results for the year ended 31 December 1984

Profit up 44% – and again doubled in three years



The acquisition of Eagle Star Holdings in January 1984 made this a year of great significance for the Group's strategic development, and the inclusion of financial services for the first time has an important impact on the Group's results.

The results of Eagle Star are now arrived at on a basis which recognises the contribution from changes in the market value of the general insurance business' investment portfolio. This contributes £95 million of pre-tax earnings, in addition to what would have been reported under the previous policy used by Eagle Star.

Hambro Life's figures are not included in these results, since it joined the Group after the year-end, but its acquisition marks a further development of financial services as one of our four major business activities, along with tobacco, retailing and paper.

In 1984 B.A.T Industries again achieved a very fine performance. Pre-tax profit increased by 44 per cent to reach a record £1,405 million, and so once again has more than doubled within three years.

Group turnover from commercial activities increased by 22 per cent to £14,426 million, and there was also £1,077 million of premium income from financial services.

Group operating profit increased by 50 per cent to £1,465 million. This includes £1,148 million from commercial activities (35 per cent higher), £192 million from associated companies (54 per cent higher) and £125 million from the insurance operations of Eagle Star. Profit attributable to B.A.T Industries' shareholders increased by 43 per cent to £784 million.

The substantial increase in pre-tax profit once again demonstrates the Group's capacity to achieve real profit growth. Even after allowing for the exchange benefit from the strong dollar and the effects of changes in the composition of the Group, real growth over inflation of around 10 per cent has been achieved.

The recovery in tobacco continued, with volume steady and trading profit 29 per cent higher in sterling terms. Exchange rate fluctuations were an important factor, but higher selling prices and improved productivity provided elements of real growth in profitability. Brown & Williamson held its share of a slightly higher US market. There was a strong improvement in West Germany, and good Brazilian results were helped by leaf export profits. Barclay gained ground in Europe. There were good performances in Latin America, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Africa.

Retailing had a mixed year despite a 34 per cent increase in trading profit in sterling terms. Business in the US was influenced by high stocks and general price cutting, which affected most of BATUS Retail's companies, so that overall results in the US were less good than in 1983. But this was more than offset by the strength of the dollar, a sharp improvement in the UK, led by a very strong Argos performance, and the inclusion of four months' figures from Horten, which became a Group subsidiary in August. International Stores was sold to Dee Corporation at the end of the year.

Paper had an outstanding year, with trading profit 44 per cent higher. Appleton improved on an already impressive performance and is investing heavily in the strong growth of its North American markets, while in Europe and the UK, Wiggins Teape took full advantage of improved markets and several years of new investment and restructuring.

The insurance industry had a very poor year, and had Eagle Star been acquired for its first year earnings alone it would have proved a disappointment. But in the context of long-term strategy its performance was encouraging, and its results, compared to those of other insurance companies, endorse our original view of the high quality of its management.

Mardon Packaging again showed a strong improvement, with volume growth in Europe and the UK, and trading profit up 46 per cent, despite strong competition.

Other trading activities now include Grovewood Securities, which achieved its seventeenth year of uninterrupted profit growth. The home improvements business in Germany suffered from a decline in consumer confidence. There was an encouraging profit performance from our enlarged interests in fruit juice in Brazil. Lower profits were reported by the cosmetics companies which since the year-end have been sold to the Beecham Group.

Our associated companies continued to grow rapidly in significance. Imasco was again a major contributor, with an increased market share in tobacco and further expansion in restaurants and drug stores. Aracruz in Brazil benefited greatly from high exports of pulp priced in US dollars.

Reflecting acquisitions and the growth of our existing businesses, the total net assets shown in the Group balance sheet increased by £2.6 billion. It is a demonstration of the Group's financial strength that less than half of this substantial increase was financed by higher borrowings.

In the light of these excellent results, the Board will be recommending a final dividend of 6.25p, making a total for the year of 10.3p, an increase of 25 per cent over the previous year.

PROSPECTS

The world's economy continues to emerge from the long recession but instability of exchange and interest rates continues. In the industrialised world and developing countries our businesses continue to progress in this more encouraging environment. I shall comment fully on the prospects for this year at the Annual General Meeting.

PATRICK SHEEHY, Chairman

GROUP RESULTS

Year ended 31 December 1984	1984 £ millions*	1983 £ millions	change
TURNOVER (including duty and excise taxes)			
Commercial activities	14,426	11,846	+22%
Financial services	1,077	—	—
Share of associated companies	2,700	1,993	+35%
Commercial activities' trading profit	1,148	851	+35%
Financial services' profit before taxation	125	—	—
Share of associated companies' profit before taxation	192	125	+54%
Operating profit	1,465	976	+50%
Net interest	(60)	3	—
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION	1,405	979	+44%
Taxation on ordinary activities	(532)	(373)	+43%
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	873	606	+44%
Attributable to minority shareholders	(89)	(59)	+51%
ATTRIBUTABLE TO B.A.T INDUSTRIES	784	547	+43%
Dividends	(151)	(120)	+25%
Earnings per share	53·552p	37·569p	+43%
DIVIDENDS PER SHARE	10·300p	8·250p	+25%

DIVIDENDS

The directors will be recommending to the shareholders at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 16 May 1985 the payment on 2 July 1985 of a final dividend for the year of 6·25p per ordinary share of 25p.
Transfers received in order by the Registrar of the Company up to 4 June 1985 will be in time to rank for payment of the final dividend.
The following is a summary of the dividends declared for the years to 31 December 1984 and 1983.

	1984	1983
Interim paid 16.11.84	4·050p	3·375p
Final proposed payable 2.7.85	6·250p	4·875p
	10·300p	8·250p

ANALYSES

Year ended 31 December	1984 £ millions*	%	1983 £ millions	%
INDUSTRIAL				
Turnover				
Tobacco	6,943	48	6,138	52
Retailing	4,511	31	3,528	30
Paper	1,379	10	1,051	9
Packaging & printing	659	5	537	4
Other trading activities	934	6	592	5
Commercial activities	14,426	100	11,846	100
Profit				
Tobacco	698	48	542	56
Retailing	221	15	165	17
Paper	144	10	100	10
Packaging & printing	35	2	24	2
Other trading activities	50	3	20	2
Commercial activities	1,148	78	851	87
Financial services	125	9	—	—
Associated companies	192	13	125	13
Operating profit	1,465	100	976	100
GEOGRAPHICAL				
Turnover				
United Kingdom	2,346	16	2,167	18
Europe	3,095	21	2,367	20
North America	5,828	40	4,521	38
Latin America	1,721	12	1,601	14
Asia	939	7	725	6
Africa	411	3	398	3
Australasia	86	1	67	1
Commercial activities	14,426	100	11,846	100
Profit				
United Kingdom	106	7	80	8
Europe	109	7	65	7
North America	657	45	485	50
Latin America	138	10	113	11
Asia	83	6	61	6
Africa	49	3	41	4
Australasia	6	—	6	1
Commercial activities	1,148	78	851	87
Financial services	125	9	—	—
Associated companies	192	13	125	13
Operating profit	1,465	100	976	100

EXCHANGE RATE EFFECTS
The results of overseas subsidiaries have been translated into sterling for the purpose of this report at exchange rates ruling on 31 December in each year. Had the same exchange rates ruled at the end as at the beginning of the year, it is estimated that the figures would have been as follows:

Year to 31 December 1984	£ millions	% change
Turnover – commercial activities	12,600	+6
Trading profit – commercial activities	970	+14
Operating profit	1,255	+29
Profit before taxation	1,200	+23
Net profit attributable to B.A.T Industries	660	+21

*£1 Sterling = US$ 1·16 (Dec 1984); US$ 1·45 (Dec 1983).

INDUSTRIAL REVIEWS

TOBACCO

In sterling terms, turnover rose by 13 per cent, trading profit by 29 per cent. Brown & Williamson increased turnover by 6 per cent in dollars and trading profit by over 17 per cent, reflecting higher US cigarette prices and productivity. In West Germany, BATCF had 7 per cent volume growth, raised market share a point to 25 per cent, and strongly improved profitability. Brazilian cigarette profits were affected by price increases lower than inflation, but leaf exports grew and overall profit increased by 25 per cent in sterling.

Export volume and profit from the UK were substantially down, US export volumes continued depressed by the dollar's strength but profit was maintained, and BATCF's profitable West German export business increased volume and turnover.

Termination of direct sales and distribution in the UK eliminated losses. In Europe, only the Finnish market showed growth but most companies benefited from Barclay's continued good performance and, except for Belgium, their trading profits improved.

Most Latin American countries improved turnover and trading profit, in Hong Kong profit rose significantly, and despite difficult economic conditions the African companies increased profits.

RETAILING

Turnover increased by 28 per cent, trading profit by 34 per cent in sterling terms. Price discounting and intensive promotional activity affected the US industry, and although BATUS Retail's sales grew by over 7 per cent, trading profit in dollars was down 10 per cent. Saks Fifth Avenue increased turnover but with lower profit, but Marshall Field and Kohl's Department Stores had a good year with turnover and trading profit up. Breuners' furnishing retail and rental stores increased turnover and profit significantly. Gimbels-Midwest's trading profit rose strongly, but it was down at Gimbels-Pittsburgh and Gimbels-East.

In the UK, Argos made substantial gains in sales and trading profit, and increased its showrooms by 21 to 154. A new concept, Jewellers Guild, went into test with 15 stores. International Stores was sold to Dee Corporation as a growing and profitable business. The West German department store group, Horten, became a subsidiary in August and contributed £26 million trading profit.

PAPER

Turnover increased by 31 per cent and trading profit by 44 per cent in sterling terms. Appleton Papers had another record year, with dollar turnover up 23 per cent and trading profit 22 per cent, due mainly to higher sales volume and improved raw material-conversion and productivity. In the UK, capacity utilisation was at a five-year high, Wiggins Teape's sales rose 17 per cent, and exports rose by a third to £132 million. UK profits doubled. The European carbonless copying paper business continued strong growth, the merchants increased margins, and profit increased substantially.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

The overall profit of the insurance operations comprises the underwriting results on general business risks, life business profits and returns on the investment portfolio. Eagle Star has adopted a new accounting policy which recognises, in the investment returns, both income earned and investment performance comprising realised gains and the change in market value over the year of investments held at the year end. This investment performance is taken to profit by reference to a five-year moving average.

On this basis, in 1984 Eagle Star contributed £125 million to Group operating profit – including £95 million arising from the change in accounting policy – compared to a pre-tax surplus for 1983 of £140 million.

Grovewood Securities' profit is included separately in trading profit from commercial activities. Without the change in accounting policy, the pre-tax surplus (excluding Grovewood) would have been £30 million, against £67 million.

General business premiums increased by 16 per cent to £665 million and the underwriting loss was £126 million. In the UK, premium income increased by 15 per cent but property, motor and liability account losses were also higher. Overseas premium income rose by 13 per cent, and life assurance premiums worldwide rose by 31 per cent to £412 million. In the UK, total new annual life premiums were down but new single premiums were up 46 per cent.

Turnover of **Mardon Packaging International** rose by 23 per cent, with trading profit up 46 per cent. There was some growth in the UK and Europe and volume and productivity gains gave higher profit. North America was also well up.

In **other trading activities**, the West German home improvements operations were affected by lower consumer confidence, turnover rose slightly but profit was down. Grovewood Securities, the investment holding company acquired with Eagle Star, made another record trading profit, up 21 per cent at £28 million. The Group's cosmetics interests, now sold, reported turnover up 12 per cent but trading profit 9 per cent down.

There was another strong increase in the Group's share of pre-tax profits of **associated companies**, up 54 per cent to £192 million. Imasco raised Canadian dollar pre-tax profit by 19 per cent. In Australia, AMATIL's profit was up 27 per cent in sterling terms. Pulp production at Aracruz Celulose, Brazil, was 6 per cent higher and profit increased significantly. Skandinavisk Holding's pre-tax profit increased by 45 per cent in sterling.

These figures for the year ended 31 December 1984 have been extracted from the full financial statements to be delivered to the Registrar of Companies, and carry an unqualified audit report. The Report and Accounts will be available on 24 April 1985. The Annual General Meeting will be held on 16 May 1985.

B·A·T INDUSTRIES

Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0NL.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Demand for gilts

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 25. Dealings End, April 12. § Contango Day, April 15. Settlement Day, April 22.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page.
If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.
You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Your gain or loss
	ELECTRICALS	
1	Sound Diffusion	
2	Pressac	
3	Plessey	
4	VG Instruments	
5	Bowthorpe	
6	Datasery	
7	Electronic Mach	
8	Suter	
9	STC	
10	Racal Elect	
	INDUSTRIALS E–K	
11	Gestetner 'A'	
12	Hawker Siddeley	
13	Hanson	
14	Extel	
15	Edbro	
16	Hestair	
17	Hawley	
18	Jacksons Bourne	
19	Greves	
20	Friedland Doggart	
	INDUSTRIALS A–D	
21	Dentsrad Stamping	
22	Alexandra W'wear	
23	Black Arrow	
24	Banro Ind	
25	Appledore	
26	Carclo Eng	
27	Dyson (J & J)	
28	Burgess	
29	Bodycote	
30	Biddle	
	DRAPERY AND STORES	
31	MFI	
32	Br Home Stores	
33	Ward White	
34	Moss Bros	
35	Smith (WH) 'A'	
36	Harris Queensway	
37	Freemans	
38	Burton	
39	Woolworth	
40	Marks & Spencer	
	Times Newspapers Limited Your Daily Total	

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

THE TIMES Portfolio
DAILY DIVIDEND
£2,000
Claims required for
+42 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BUILDING AND ROADS

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
188	132	King & Shaxson	188		11.8	6.3	15.5
258	200	Kleinwort Benson	252		20.0	4.5	6.5
62	42	Lloyds	57		3.9	6.9	10.6
42	27	Lon Scot Fin	37		1.5	4.0	13.6
42	27	Manson	34		4.4	13.2	8.4
257	157	Mercury Secs	254		11.1	4.4	8.4
135	97	Midland	128		8.5	6.6	7.2
57	41	Nat Aust Bk	54		4.2	7.8	8.5
135	101	Nat West	128		10.0	7.8	12.7
72	57	Oriomon	72		1.8	2.5	23.6
135	101	Provident	135				
72	57	Ran Bros	72				
114	101	Rothschild (J) Hld	114				
21½	14	Royl Bnk Of Can	21		12.0	4.4	16.2
218	218	Royl Bnk Of Scot	218		22.0	10.1	14.5
71	44	Schroders	71		28.5	5.8	7.2
218	218	Securities M	218		22.0	10.1	14.5
71	44	Smith St Aubyn	71		2.8	3.9	9.7
218	218	Standd Chart	218		25.7	11.8	9.4
78	62	Union	78		4.8	6.2	17.3
51½	33½	Wagon	51				
260	195	Wells Fargo	260		6.4	2.5	17.3
		Wintrust					

BUILDING AND ROADS

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
288	156	Aberdeen Constr	182		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Amec	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
111	78	Ancotts	111				
288	156	Atkinson	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	BPB Industries	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Beggeridge Brick	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Barratt Dev	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Bellway(Robt Construr	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Beazwood	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Bellway	117		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Bernard Concrete	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Bett Bros	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Blockleys	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Blue Circle	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Bredero&Cloud Hill	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Bridgewater Dudley	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Br Dredging	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Brown&Jackson	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Brownlee	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Bryant	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Burnett & Hallam	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Calednonad Robey	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Carr (J) Doncaster	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Cement-Readstone	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Conder Int	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Costain	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Countryside	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Crouch (Derek)	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Crouch Group	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Dew (George)	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Douglas (Fred)	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Eng	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Fab	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Do 'A'	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Finlan (John)	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	French Kier	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Galliford	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Gibbs & Dancy Ord	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Glasson (JA)	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	HAT	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Halsted Bar	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Henderson-Stuart	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Heywood Williams	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Higgs & Hill	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	IDC	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Babcock Johnson	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Jarvis (J) & Sons	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Laing (J)	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Do 'A'	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Lawrence (Walter)	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Lilley (F.J.C)	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Lovell (Y.J)	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Magnet & South	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Marchwiel	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Marshalls (Halifax)	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	May & Hassell	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	McAlpine (Alfred)	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Mayer Int	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Miller (Stanley)	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Monk (A)	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Mowlem (John)	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Newarthill	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Nottingham Brick	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Pearce (CH) Sons	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Presents Timber	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Pochins	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	RMC	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Redland	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Roberts Adlard	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Rowlinson Secs	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Ruberoid	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Rugby Cement	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	SGB	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Sharpe & Fisher	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Smart (J)	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Tarmac	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Taylor Woodrow	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Tilbury Group	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Travis & Arnold	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Tmst	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Turriff	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	UBM	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Vibroplant	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Wates	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Do Dfd	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Warrington (T)	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Watts Bailie	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Weston Bros	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Wiggins	111		15.0	8.6	4.8
288	156	Wilson (Connolly)	288		9.4	5.2	10.2
111	78	Wimpey (George)	111		15.0	8.6	4.8

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
188	148	AKZO N/V Bearer	188		400	15.7	
188	148	Allied Colloids	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Ashersham	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Anchor Chemical	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Arrow Chemical	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Bayer Dm50	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Bolgaton	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Brent Chems	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Br Benzol	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Br Tar Products	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Canning (W)	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Coalite	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Coates Bros	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Do 'A'	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Cory (Horace)	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Crode	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Do Dfd	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Ellis & Everard	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Halstead (James)	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Hickson	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Hoechst DM50	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Imp Chem Ind	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Laporte	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Lennig	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Pyrex	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Rentokil	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	SNIA BPD	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Stewart Plastic	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Wolsenholme Rink	188		3.6	1.3	
188	148	Yorkshire Chem	188		3.6	1.3	

CINEMAS AND TV

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
198	128	Anglia TV 'A'	135		11.4	8.5	9.3
114	88	Grampian	114		15.5	7.4	6.5
198	128	HTV N/V	198				
114	88	LWT 'A'	114		15.5	7.4	6.5
198	128	Scot TV 'A'	198		11.4	8.5	9.3
114	88	TVS N/V	114		15.5	7.4	6.5
37	24	TSW	37		2.5	6.8	6.5

DRAPERY AND STORES

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
288	204	ASR	288		10.4	3.6	7.8
151	94	Accessorize 'A'	151		2.9	1.9	34.9
151	94	Beattie (James) 'A'	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Bentalls	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Brenner	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Br Home Stores	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Brown (N)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Burton	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Cahn (A) &Sons	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Carrons 'A'	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Clubet (S)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Church	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Combined English	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Conns (Furn) 'A'	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Debenhams	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Dewhirst (J)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Dunhill	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Ellis & Goldstein	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Elys (Wimbledon)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Empire Stores	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Etam	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Evecuuis Clothes	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Fine Art Dev	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Ford (Martin)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Forminster	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Foster Bros	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Freemans	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Garfer (AJ)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Giant Sh	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Goldberg (A)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Gratton Sp	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Greenfield Blacks	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	GUS	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Do 'A'	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Hallet Mothercare	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Harris Queensway	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Hepworth (J)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Home Charm	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	House Of Fraser	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	House Of Lerose	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Jones (Ernest)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Ladies Pride	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Lee Cooper	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Liberty	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Lincrofe Kilgour	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Marks & Spencer	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Marshall (John)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	MFI	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Millets Leisure	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Moss Bros	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	NSS Newsagents	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Oliver (S)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Owen Owen	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Peters Stores	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Prouty (Alfred)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Rabeta (Jewellers)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Raybeck	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Readicut	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Reed (Austin)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Do 'A'	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	S.U. Stores	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Samuel (H)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Do 'A'	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Sears	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Selfcourt	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Simpson (S) 'A'	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Smith (WH) 'A'	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Do 'B'	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Stanley (AG)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Stanley (J)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Sunsile Clothes	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Superdrug Stores	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Tom Carnabella	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Time Products	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Ventons Vhyella	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	WW Group	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Ward White	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Waring & Gillow	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Wigfall (Henry)	151		10.4	6.9	14.7
151	94	Woolworth	151		10.4	6.9	14.7

ELECTRICALS

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
588	321	AB Elect	448		8.6	1.9	18.4
167	94	Amstrad	167		1.1	1.5	12.8
424	211	Arlen Elec	424				
216	94	Atlantic Comp	395		5.2	0.8	25.1
141	81	Audio Fidelity	141				
216	94	Auto Sec	113		15.1	7.7	13.5
216	94	BICC	216		24.1	11.2	9.5
216	94	BSR	216		24.1	11.2	9.5
216	94	Bowthorpe	216		24.1	11.2	9.5
216	94	Br Telecom 50p P	216		24.1	11.2	9.5
216	94	Brown Boveri Kent	216		24.1	11.2	9.5
216	94	Bullgin (AF) 'A'	216		24.1	11.2	9.5
216	94	CASE	216		24.1	11.2	9.5
216	94	Cable & Wireless	216		24.1	11.2	9.5
216	94	Cambridge Elec	216		24.1	11.2	9.5
216	94	Chloride	216		24.1	11.2	9.5
216	94	Do 7½% CPF	216		24.1	11.2	9.5

FINANCE AND LAND

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
334	288	Abingworth	288		13.1	4.6	9.3
131	103	Allen Hume	131		2.9	2.2	44.8
131	103	Amalgamate	131		6.9	5.2	19.2
131	103	Anglo Scottish	115				
131	103	Berkeley Tech	131				
131	103	Cornelius	131		14.5	11	5.9
131	103	Candover	131		2.8	2.4	19
131	103	Charterhouse	131		9.5	6.5	23.5
131	103	Hambro	131		6.9	5.2	19.2
131	103	Ivory & Sime	131		7.5	4.7	49.7
131	103	Majedie	131				
131	103	Park Place	131				

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FOODS

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
19	14	Alpine Drinks	19				
145	114	Amyl	145				
417	178	Ad Food	417				
236	178	Assoc Dairies	236				
178	114	Assoc Fisheries	178				
236	178	Avana	236				
178	114	Banks (Sidney C)	178				
236	178	Barker & Dobson	236				
178	114	Berer (AG)	178				
236	178	Bassett Foods	236				
178	114	Batleys Of York	178				
236	178	Belgian	236				
178	114	Bickford Cord	178				
236	178	Br Vending (BVI)	236				
178	114	Cadbury-Schwepp	178				
236	178	Cerra Milling	236				
178	114	Clifford's Dairies	178				
236	178	Do 'A'	236				
178	114	Cullens	178				
236	178	Dee	236				
178	114	Fisher (Albert)	178				
236	178	Fitch Lovell	236				
178	114	Glass Glover	178				
236	178	Global Gp	236				
178	114	Hazlewood Foods	178				
236	178	Hillards	236				
178	114	Home Farm	178				
236	178	Iceland Frozen	236				
178	114	Imperial Sea	178				
236	178	Lees (John J)	236				
178	114	Lovell (SF)	178				
236	178	Low (Wm)	236				
178	114	Matthews (Bernard)	178				
236	178	Melbourne	236				
178	114	Meat Trade Supp	178				
236	178	Morrison (W)	236				
178	114	Nabisco Brands	178				
236	178	Nichols (JN) (Vimto)	236				
178	114	Normans	178				
236	178	Nthn Foods	236				
178	114	Northern & Peacock	178				
236	178	Park Foods	236				
178	114	RHM	178				
236	178	Rowntree Mac	236				
178	114	Sainsbury (J)	178				
236	178	Somporter	236				
178	114	Tate & Lyle	178				
236	178	Tesco	236				
178	114	Unilever	178				
236	178	Utd Biscuits	236				
178	114	Watson & Philip	178				

HOTELS AND CATERERS

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
289	289	Grand Met	289		13.1	4.6	9.3
174	174	Kennedy Brookes	174		14.2	8.2	15.5
166	166	Lasbrokes	166		10.5	6.3	55.1
72	72	Lon Park Hotels	72		1.9	2.6	18.7
95½	95½	Mount Charlotte	95½		2.9	3.0	21.2
271	271	Prince Of W Hotels	271		8.1	3.0	24.5
159	159	Queens Moat	159		2.9	1.8	20.4
23	23	Savoy Hotels 'A'	23		0.6	2.6	20.5
146	146	Stakis	146				
94	94	Trusthouse Forte	94		6.4	6.8	9.3

INDUSTRIALS A–D

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
288	204	AAH	288		9.7	3.4	10.6
204	204	AGB Research	204		8.7	4.3	24.5
204	204	AIM	204		2.5	1.2	12.7
204	204	APV	204		16.1	6.5	7.0
204	204	Aeronaon	204		6.9	5.1	11.4
204	204	Ailcraft	204		9.5	5.1	10.5
204	204	Alexandra W'wear	204				
204	204	Amber Ind	204		6.5	4.3	13.5
204	204	Appleton	204		6.5	4.3	13.5
204	204	Applied Comp Tech	204		6.5	4.3	13.5
204	204	Arlinson	204		6.5	4.3	13.5
204	204	Armour	204		28.5	6.9	7.4
204	204	Ash & Lacey	204				
204	204	Ashley	204		5.5	4.1	13.4
204	204	Assoc Br Eng	204				
204	204	Assoc Heat	204		7.1	2.4	7.8
204	204	Assoc Telecoms	204				
204	204	Aurora	204		2.3	0.6	28.6
204	204	Do Prf Ord	204				
204	204	Avon Rubber	204		6.7	2.6	10.4
204	204	Azlaire Metal	204		1.4	0.3	15.5
204	204	BBA	204		20.0	6.7	11.8
204	204	BET Dfd	204		10.8	7.1	17.4
204	204	BETEC	204				
204	204	BOC	204		28.0	6.7	10.6
204	204	BTR	204		8.1a	5.5	10.8
204	204	Babcock	204				
204	204	Bailey (CH)	204		7.1b	1.8	
204	204	Baird (Wm)	204				
204	204	Baker Perkins	204		5.1	2.5	25.7
204	204	Bamd Ind	204				
204	204	Barlow	204		6.9	6.9	6.7
204	204	Barger	204				
204	204	Barnham	204				
204	204	Barlow Rand	204				
204	204	Barrow Hepburn	204				
204	204	Barton Transport	204				
204	204	Bayliss (Charles)	204				
204	204	Beecham Clarke	204				
204	204	Beauford	204				
204	204	Beechen	204				
204	204	Bellhouse	204				
204	204	Bellair Cosmetics	204				
204	204	Berisford	204				
204	204	Bertorelli	204				
204	204	Berisford (SW)	204				
204	204	Bespack	204				
204	204	Beslobell	204				
204	204	Bemwood	204				
204	204	Beveran (DF)	204				
204	204	Bibby (J)	204				
204	204	Bickle	204				
204	204	Billam (J)	204				
204	204	Bilton Qualcast	204				
204	204	Birmingham Mint	204				
204	204	Black Arrow	204				
204	204	Black (Peter)	204				
204	204	Blackwood Hodge	204				
204	204	Blundell-Perm	204				
204	204	Bocknowe	204				
204	204	Bodycote	204				
204	204	Boots	204				
204	204	Boulton (Wm)	204				
204	204	Bowater	204				
204	204	Bowater Inc	204				
204	204	Brakinwalks Eng	204				
204	204	Brammer	204				
204	204	Brasenny	204				
204	204	Brengreen	204				
204	204	Bridgend Process	204				
204	204	Brierley	204				
204	204	Brixton	204				
204	204	Brixton-Gundry	204

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ● Changing retail fortunes ● City coup for Arabs ● Storage as investment

Hunting Gate profits hit by shortage of sites

By Judith Huntley

Hunting Gate, the private housebuilding, construction and property development group founded by Mr Frederick Bandet, its president, is still looking for a new chief executive.

It has been doing so since 1983 when Mr Danny Desmond, a former managing director, left the company.

Mr Colin Smith, former chairman of Wimpey Property Holdings and the son of Sir Reginald Smith, former chairman of the George Wimpey group, is believed to have had discussions with Mr Bandet and others at Hunting Gate about the chief executive's job. But it appears the talks broke down after failure to agree terms.

Mr Smith recently left Wimpey Property Holdings after Mr Clifford Chetwood suceeded Sir Reginald as chairman of George Wimpey.

Mr Chetwood was said to be wielding a new broom at Wimpey, but it seems his approach was not appreciated by some of the senior people at the company, and Mr Smith is believed to have been among the dissenters.

Mr John Cowan, a non-executive director of Hunting Gate, would not comment further on the search for a chief executive, saying that it was a private matter. But it is understood that there is no other contender under consideration at present.

The company's accounts, just published, show that money owing to Mr Desmond on his departure after board disagreements has been paid. Last year £91,000 was put aside for this purpose.

Hunting Gate admits that its profits are "of modest proportions". Pretax profit for the year ended July, 1984, was £1.64 million (on turnovers of 47 million) compared with 1983's £761,000. But £270,000 has to be deducted from profits. The money has been paid to the fund which financed the company's 100,000 sq ft industrial scheme at Tottenham, North London (in rental guarantees resulting from the "demise" of its tenant).

The construction side suffered a bad first half but picked up in the second half. Even so, profits were small. About 50 per cent of its work comes from Hunting Gate's property development side with the remainder from design and building for outside clients. Turnover in 1984 was about £16 million.

Hunting Gate Homes saw disappointing results because of planning delays and the lack of enough sites on which to develop. The company is actively buying land, albeit at considerable but unspecified interest cost, so that 500 homes can be built and sold this year, but rising land prices are putting profit margins under pressure.

Hunting Gate is putting increasing emphasis on improving the quality of its investment portfolio, cash flow permitting. Properties built by its development arm go into the portfolio on a selective basis but some on the books may soon be weeded out. At the moment 25 per cent is retail, 25 per cent offices and the rest industrial space.

The portfolio has been valued at £12.13 million compared with the 1983 figure of £9.64 million. Some industrial property suffered a write down, but increases in the value of some offices improved the overall figure.

Hunting Gate had its fingers burned with losses on the west coast of America. It was caught by a downturn in the market and by trying to undertake a development which was too big for it to handle. However, the company says it will consider the US again, but it will tread carefully before committing itself.

Hunting Gate is able to finance only small developments internally at the moment, with anything over about £4 million being pre-funded with institutions. This inevitably means that its stake in such projects will be small. Borrowings are now being re-financed with long-term money totalling £3 million – being provided by Barclays Merchant Bank, Citibank and County Bank.

In 1981 the group considered going public but this was rejected because of disagreements.

Mr Nigel Turnbull, the finance director, will not be drawn on the subject of a flotation other than to say it could not be ruled out and that the group is intent on building up a business of quality and depth before embarking on such a route.

Moorgate deal

The Arab Banking Corporation of Bahrein has bought the freehold of No 1 Moorgate in the City, opposite the Bank of England, from Commercial Union Properties, confirming market rumours that the bank had paid a substantial amount for the offices. The price has not been disclosed but is believed to be between £41 million and £42 million. The building was sold by Hillier Parker on behalf of one of CU's long-term funds.

The Arab Banking Corporation, represented by Clattons, will use the building as its London office. No 1 Moorgate, with 49,000 sq ft of air-conditioned space and banking accommodation, has been completely re-built behind three listed facades.

The agents would not comment on the yield achieved for CUP but the market is putting it at 4 per cent with a rent equivalent to about £37 a sq ft. The deal underlines the stength of the City office market around what has traditionally been the prime location

Speyhawk Land & Estates is close to signing up the Trustee Savings Bank to take the 28,000 sq ft of space in its refurbishment in the City at 60/61 Lombard Street and 18 Birchin Lane. The scheme is being funded by the Scottish Equitable Assurance Society on the basis of £35 a sq ft rent but it is believed that a considerably higher figure could be paid.

No comment was forthcoming from Speyhawk.

Warehouse fashion

Retail warehousing, once scorned by the investing institutions, are now finding favour as yields fall 7.5 per cent and rents rise.

The latest survey on the subject by Richard Ellis, the estate agents, follows that by the rival firm, Jones Lang Wootton. Richard Ellis puts the emphasis on the retail aspects of such schemes, arguing that funds should assess investing in the same way they would look at any retail investments.

The rapid growth in rents as more and more operaters move out of town warehouse sites or cluster together in "parks" is making these developments attractive

And the geared lease, highlighted by Jones Lang Wootton, means that premium rents are being paid over and above that for warehouses. JLW says that the average retail warehouse rent was £4.27 a sq ft in 1984 compared with the average geared rent of £3.93 sq ft

DE GROOT COLLIS

WELL COURT, EC4	GRACECHURCH STREET, EC3	CASTLE COURT, FURNIVAL ST., EC4	HANOVER HOUSE, HIGH HOLBORN, WC1	COMMONWEALTH HOUSE, NEW OXFORD ST., WC1	EAGLE HOUSE JERMYN ST., SW1	REGENT STREET, W1
Superb self contained building – 770 sq. ft. Fully refurbished. New lease. Ref: IMS.	Fully modernised office suite – 2359 sq. ft. Reduced rental terms. Ref: PC	A new prestige office development – 11,150 sq. ft. To let @ £13.45 p.s.f. Ref: JBH	Modernised office floors of 2,400 sq. ft., each. To let @ approx £13 p.s.f. Ref: RH	Entire s/c refurbished floor – 10,125 sq. ft. To let @ £12.34 per sq. ft. Ref: JBH/RH	Fully modernised office suite – 1180 sq. ft. Car parking available. Ref RGP/RCM	Various small suites to let from 400 sq. ft. to 1,000 sq. ft. Ref RCM
TEL: 01-606 1455	TEL: 01-606 1455	TEL: 01-242 6333	TEL: 01-242 0333	TEL: 01-242 0333	TEL: 01-734 1384	TEL: 01-734 1304

CENTRAL LONDON OFFICES

Liverpool falls behind in shopping

London's West End is still Britain's premier shopping centre but Birmingham now outranks Glasgow and Edinburgh in size. New research by Hillier Parker and Newcastle University, sponsored by the Royal institution of Chartered Surveyors and the Economic and Social Research Council, into the relative size of Britain's leading shopping centres shows the changing fortunes of these locations.

The largest decline in a metropolitan centre last year was at Liverpool, which fell from third position in 1971 to tenth. Nottingham on the other hand has risen from twelfth place to sixth. All six new large retail centres which had only district status 20 years ago are in the South East.

The survey enables shopping centres to be compared and ranks them according to the number of multiple branch stores they possess.

● MEPC has forward funded its 60,000 sq ft high technology development at Bracknell, Berkshire, with the Rolls-Royce Pension Fund. The building, which has three blocks, is being developed by Ortem Estates, the property trading arm of MEPC. The developer hopes for £9 a sq ft.

● Trident Television has sold its head leasehold interest in the 27,500 sq ft Savoy Hill House, the Strand, in London's West End, to the Institution of Electrical Engineers for £2.9 million. The IEE, which has its headquarters on the rest of the site fronting the Embankment, will occupy part of Savoy Hill House in addition to its existing space and will sub-let part of the building on short-term leases.

Savoy Hill House has 94 years of a lease from the Duchy of Lancaster unexpired.

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New Industrial/Warehouse Units 3,100-12,500 sq.ft.



- Rate free until July 1993
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All enquiries to

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DRIVERS JONAS
16 Suffolk Street London SW1Y 4HG
01-930 9731. Telex: 917080

Britannic Assurance

PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

RESULTS FOR 1984

	1984 £000	1983 £000
Life Branches		
Total Premium Income	122,991	112,910
Total Surplus for Policyholders	66,363	55,173
General Branch		
Total Premium Income	16,321	14,785
Underwriting (Loss)	(3,099)	(1,952)
Investment Income	1,824	1,812
Profit (Loss) after Tax	(838)	(58)
Transfer from Claims Equalisation Reserve	235	—
Profit and Loss Account		
Transfer from life branches	5,435	4,516
Transfer (to) from general branch	(603)	(58)
Total Surplus for the year, including other net income	5,469	4,600
Net Dividend for the year for stockholders	25.5p	21.8p

BONUS DECLARATION FOR POLICYHOLDERS

Ordinary Branch Reversionary Bonuses

Ordinary Policies: A scale from **£5.50% to £7.50%** (1983 - £5.50%) of sum assured

Annuities: A scale from **£6.65% to £8.65%** (1983 - £6.65%) of annuity

PLUS

increased scale of terminal bonuses

Industrial Branch Reversionary Bonuses

A scale from **£4.40% to £6.00%** (1983 - £4.30%) of sum assured

PLUS

special reversionary bonus and increased scale of terminal bonuses

Britannic Assurance Covers the Country

Eagle Star

SUMMARY OF GROUP RESULTS FOR 1984



Sir Denis Mountain, Bt., Chairman.

The results for 1984 have been prepared on a new basis. We have, for the first time, included investments at market value in the shareholder's balance sheet and taken a conservative amount in respect of asset appreciation to the credit of the profit and loss account.

On the new basis the results were as follows:–

	1984 £m		1983 £m	
PREMIUM INCOME				
Fire, accident and motor	620.5		537.4	
Marine, aviation and transport	44.1	664.6	34.3	571.7
Long term – annual premiums	237.2		215.9	
– single premiums	174.8	412.0	98.4	314.3
		1,076.6		886.0
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT				
Underwriting loss *		(126.4)		(70.3)
Shareholder's long term profits **		22.2		20.5
Investment return ***		257.3		212.8
Surplus before taxation		153.1		163.0
Taxation	(33.8)		(28.0)	
Minority interests	(7.4)	(41.2)	(9.1)	(37.1)
		111.9		125.9
Extraordinary items	(3.6)		1.2	
Transfer to capital reserves	(49.1)	(52.7)	(58.0)	(56.8)
Balance available for appropriation		59.2		69.1
Dividends		(40.0)		(27.7)
Balance added to revenue reserves		19.2		41.4

* Includes £10m (1983: £10m) for additional provisions in respect of industrial disease claims on contracts written mainly before 1965.

** After grossing up for corporation tax and income tax; the corresponding net figure is £13.4m (1983: £11.6m).

*** The amount shown as investment return is made up as follows:–

	1984 £m		1983 £m	
Investment income		127.4		109.9
Investment expenses		(3.3)		(3.0)
Profits of Grovewood Securities		28.2		23.3
Share of associated companies' profits		0.2		0.2
		152.5		130.4
Investment appreciation	112.1		142.7	
Transfer of deferred investment gains	(7.3)	104.8	(60.3)	82.4
Total investment return		257.3		212.8

Investment appreciation is the appreciation in the shareholder's funds of stock exchange investments, property and mortgages in the year. It includes profits and losses on investments sold and the movement in market value of investments held throughout the year and is stated after off-setting exchange differences on currency liabilities and matching currency investments. Credit is taken in the profit and loss account for one fifth of this appreciation and of the appreciation in the previous four years. Balances not credited to profit and loss account are carried forward as deferred investment gains.

The profits for 1984 would have been £58.3m (1983: £90.3m) if presented using the accounting policies adopted during 1983.

The industry-wide losses now emerging are the inevitable result of the rate cutting war that has taken place over recent years which has produced premiums which were totally inadequate to compensate the deterioration in claims experience in all classes of business. These losses have been exacerbated by the weather catastrophes suffered in many areas of our operations.

At the end of 1984 the free reserves of the group, excluding the value of the shareholder's equity in the life funds, amounted to 112 per cent of general business premium income. This compares with 116 per cent at the end of 1983 and provides a substantial margin of free reserves over and above the provision for liabilities.

INVESTMENT INCOME. The total group investment income, (excluding capital appreciation), on shareholder's funds amounted to £127.4m (1983: £109.9m), an increase of 15.9 per cent. These figures do not include the earnings of Grovewood Securities.

Currency appreciation during 1984, particularly the strengthening of the US dollar, accounted for approximately £2.2m of the investment income. Adjusting for this factor the underlying rate of growth would be 13.9 per cent, which we regard as an exceptionally satisfactory performance achieved in difficult circumstances.

GENERAL BUSINESS. General business premium income increased by 16 per cent to £664.6m. Although strong competition for insurance business worldwide continues, market capacity has been reduced as a result of the very poor underwriting results experienced in recent years.

In accordance with our usual practice the table set out below analyses the income and underwriting results for each major territory including an estimate of the investment income applicable to the insurance business in each territory.

The figures shown include in the 1984 result an additional amount in respect of unexpired risks to cover the inadequacy of premiums written in 1984 which relate to exposure in 1985 and in particular the claims resulting from the severe weather in the early part of the year.

GENERAL BUSINESS INSURANCE RESULT

	Premium Income £m	Underwriting Result £m	Attributable Investment Income £m	1984 Total £m	1983 Total £m
United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland *	469.8	(87.9)	69.4	(18.5)	16.9
Australia	51.1	(1.6)	6.2	4.6	2.1
Belgium	29.4	(7.0)	5.2	(1.8)	(2.3)
South Africa	60.1	–	4.0	4.0	6.2
USA	29.6	(12.6)	1.9	(10.7)	(5.9)
Other territories	24.6	(5.3)	2.8	(2.5)	(1.2)
Change in provision for unexpired risks – overseas business	–	(2.0)	–	(2.0)	1.0
	664.6	(116.4)	89.5	(26.9)	16.8

* including reinsurance and worldwide marine and aviation.

In the United Kingdom there was an increase of 15 per cent in premium income, the underwriting loss was £70.3m (1983 £32.3m) Commercial fire and liability business made an underwriting loss of £5.8m and £18.7m (1983: £5.8m, £7.3m) respectively, the latter account suffering from an unusually high number of large public liability claims and an increasing number of claims relating to industrial deafness. The All-In account showed a loss of £18.8m (1983, £12.5m) the results being severely affected by the extreme winter weather in the early months of 1984 and 1985 and by the continuing problem of subsidence. The motor account made a loss of £18.4m (1983: £1.6m) reflecting increased claims frequency. The loss on the accident account was £4.2m (1983: £2.4m) again reflecting the high cost of running this business and the loss on travel business of £3.9m (1983: £1.8m) arose from deteriorating claims experience.

The results for London market business showed an overall loss of £11.2m (1983: £6.6m) and this result arises mainly from deteriorating trends in claims relating to earlier years. Industrial disease claims are still causing concern and claims provisions in respect of contracts written mainly before 1965 have been further strengthened by £10m.

The worldwide marine and aviation account resulted in a transfer from profit and loss account of £3.0m (1983: £2.5m) which mainly arose from the particularly poor results experienced by our subsidiaries in the United States and France.

The overseas results were dominated by the underwriting loss of £12.6m in the United States which was exacerbated by the strength of the dollar. The results in Australia again show an improvement, but there was a deterioration in South Africa. Premium income increased by 13 per cent in both sterling and underlying currency terms.

LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS. Worldwide premium income increased by 31 per cent to £412m, and the shareholder's life profits were £22.2m (1983: £20.5m), an increase of 8.3 per cent. The reduction in the rate of corporation tax has had the effect of reducing the 'grossed up' value of life profits and had it not been for this change the increase would have been 15 per cent.

In the United Kingdom total new annual premiums showed a reduction in 1984 which is accounted for by the non-recurring benefit from the MIRAS switching which took place in 1983 and the abolition of life assurance premium relief during 1984. New business showed a healthy increase over 1982, the last comparable year, despite the loss of LAPR Mortgage endowment business and individual pension business were the most buoyant sectors.

New single premiums showed an increase of 46 per cent, the main contributor to this growth being immediate annuities.

Overseas business developed strongly with increases in new business in our most significant territories, Australia, Ireland and France, of 33 per cent and 147 per cent for annual and single premium business respectively.

GROVEWOOD SECURITIES. 1984 was the seventeenth successive year of increased profits for Grovewood Securities, the earnings being £28.2m, an improvement of 21 per cent over 1983. This represents another remarkable achievement for this group under the chairmanship of Mr John Danny.

The above is a summary of the results for the year. The full report and accounts which contains an unqualified auditors' report will be published on 22nd April 1985 and delivered to the Registrar of Companies within the prescribed period.

Eagle Star Holdings PLC

1, Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8BE

Football: Sir Alf Ramsey's help to be sought as England prepare for World Cup acclimatization

Wolves forced to ask for third PFA loan in a year

Wolverhampton Wanderers had not finished paying off their last loan from the Professional Footballer's Association (PFA) before going back for £15,000 earlier this week. Since last week they have been unable to pay their players.

With gates slumping alarmingly, they have now been loaned enough to cover four week's wages. This is their third PFA loan in 12 months.

The loan can only be used to pay the club's players. It had to be approved by the Footbal League because it is to be repaid, direct to the PFA, by the League using levies due to the club from such sources as television and pools revenue.

Bendan Batson, the PFA assistant secretary, said yesterday: "Wolves have not seen any levy money since last November because they have not yet finished paying off the loan we made to them then, but that's by the by. It is the third loan in a year though and while we are not saying we would not help them again, our management committee are unlikely to let us keep giving Wolves loans all the time.

Batson criticized the club's backers, whom he said "ought to work out whether they want a club or not and I've no doubt the supporters feel the same way." It seems apparent the backers are not prepared to put their hands in their pockets at the moment or the club would not keep having to come to us for money." Gordon Taylor, the PFA secteary, has warned that the situation "cannot go on"

Wolves, whose last home League gate was their lowest for 59 years, look doomed to the Third Division on present form. They were beaten 4-1 by their relegation rivals, Notts County, on Saturday – scoring their first goal in 717 minutes in the process. They have not won a League match since November 24 when they beat Fulham 2-1.

They are believed to be losing £10,000 a week and their debts are steadily rising. They owe money to the Inland Revenue, Customs and Excise, and £25,000 to the West Midland County Council for police duties at the ground.

Players' bonuses and other unpaid loans could take their debts over £150,000. However, Wolves' chief executive, Eric Woodward, said that money is being transferred to the club's account by its owners, Allied Properties.

Woodward said yesterday: "There was a need for urgent money and I am grateful the PFA have helped us out. The owners have advised me that funding for the club is on the way, but there is a delay because of the practicalities of transferring it."

Barnett returns

Garry Barnett, the Oxford United forward, has returned to Manor Road after a second period on loan to Fulham. Fulham, wanter him for another month but United's manager, Jim Smith, refused.



Hateley (right), one of England's blossoming players, puts Lawrenson, of the Republic of Ireland, under pressure during Tuesday's match at Wembley (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Character is Robson aim for Mexico

By David Miller

Bobby Robson, England's manager, acknowledges that if any international players are involved in the finals of next season's European club competitions, or the FA Cup final, they may arrive in Mexico for the World Cup finals – assuming England qualify – too late to acclimatize and be ready for the opening match.

It is the manager's intention to depart the day after the end of the football League season on May 3. "We will, as it is, get less than the four weeks, which physiologists say is the minimum time in which to adjust to altitude," Robson said yesterday. "Conditioning to heat can take only a few days, but altitude needs a month. The absolute fitness of the players will be fundamental to their ability to cope with the problem."

The World Cup finals begin on May 31. It would be possible for the majority of the squad to leave even before the end of the League programme, with the consent of their clubs if not involved in decisive fixtures.

"We need every day," says Robson, who hopes that this summer's three-match visit to Mexico City will help to establish the right way to play. "Slow, possession football with short bursts in high-activity areas will be essential. We hope this year to find out what the problems are during eight days, and to come back and solve them."

He will be discussing with Sir Alf Ramsey aspects of play in 1970, when England lost in the quarter-final round in temperatures approaching 100F, though arguably and controversially for quite unrelated reasons. Robson is as much concerned with the character as the skill of his squad, remembering, as a player himself, the unrest which undermined Walter Winterbottom's team in Chile in 1962.

"I have told the squad they must accept that they will be away from home for five weeks this summer and, optimistically, two months next summer, and to let me know if they are not prepared to face it. This year's tour should help to show me if that type of player is there.

"We want some good tourists, those who can stick together, and we'll find out this time. I don't know how the cricketers manage such extended tours. But what I do know is that when Brazil won in 1970 they had over three months together in preparation."

It is not necessarily true that every professional can withstand the temperamental problems of enforced periods away from home. Paul Madeley in 1970 preferred to be left out of Ramsey's squad, and Colin Todd, another of England's potentially outstanding defenders, was a poor traveller, as was the inimitable Greaves in his early days.

One improvement in a manager's scope for maintaining morale is that in 1986 all 11 reserves will be allowed on the substitutes' bench instead of only five, with any two permitted to play. Banishing six to the grandstand has always created difficulties. It now means, for example, that Kennedy, the reserve to Sansom at left back, who would never be included among five substitutes because he plays in only one position, can now be on the bench to be available should Sansom be injured.

Colchester loan

Colchester United who have had trouble scoring goals since losing their forward, Tony Adcock, with cartilage trouble last month, have signed the Gillingham forward, Paul Shinners, on a month's loan.

● Eamonn Deelan, a youth international with the Republic of Ireland, has signed as a full professional for West Ham United.

England's manager turns injuries to his advantage

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

England are looking at Romania their next target, through twin sights. As they aim for a victroy in Bucharest on May 1, they can see the World Cup finals with one eye and a record that has stood for five years with the other. They have not won six internationals in a row since 1980.

The fourth in the list of their victims then were the republic of Ireland and, apart from Keegan's two decisive goals, the night was notable for the debut of Bryan Robson. As he led England to their fifth successive triumph, against the same opponents on Wednesday night, the introduction of other new players was equally memorable.

Bobby Robson has again discovered that injuries, which severely disrupted his early career as the national manager, can be beneficial. If his three most experienced and ageing forwards in Francis, Woodcock, and Mariner had been regularly abailable, he might not have been so tempted to usher in a fresh and youthful attack over the last 10 months.

Hateley burst to unforseen prominence at the age of 22 during the South American tour and now three more youngsters have stepped into contention. Stevens, aged 21, Waddle and Lineker, both 24, have alredy shown enough promise to desere a place in the squad that will visit Mexico and the United States this summer.

As well as claiming his first goal in his second appearance, Steven has fitted into the midfield jigsaw that is built around Wilkins and Bryan Robson. Only he and the as yet uncapped Allen, of West Ham United, are equipped to complement their defensive duties with the ability to operate as a right winger.

Waddle has come in to challenge Barnes for the similar role on the left. Both have the same deceptively casual style and Waddle, once he was given possession after a subdued start, showed that he can be as menacing as Barnes.

Lineker, who crowned his first full appearance with his first goal for England, illustrated why Liverpool were for so long interested in him. Less slight and as fleet-footed as the forward they eventually signed, Walsh, he looked a more effective and dangerous foil for Hateley than the frail Woodcock in Windsor Part a month ago.

Although Bailey's error spoiled the debutant's ball, which included Davenport's closing flourish, Bobby Robson has now found an appropriate substitute for each position except that of his captain and namesake. Stevens, of Tottenham Hotspur, was the most logical choice but he is not expected to be available until next season.

The Republic, less frenzied than Northern Ireland, have no such reserve strength. Once Sheedy, Galvin and Robinson had been ruled out, Eoin Hand was left with O'Keefe, a fourth division forward who had said he would be happy to play in Wembley's car park. He might as well have spent the evening there.

Although Brady, and particularly the goal he fashioned with Staples, was a delight to watch, the Republic's away record continues to be remarkably poor. They have been successful in only Iceland, Malta and Cyprus in the last 18 years. Unless it improves, they will be looking at the World Cup finals through the wrong end of a telescope.

Doubt over Hughton

Tottenham may be without their full back, Chris Hughton, against Aston Villa on Saturday because of an injury sustained in a tackle with his club colleague Glenn Hoddle during Tuesday night's England v Republic of Ireland international match at Wembley. Hughton was left limping with a knee injury after Hoddle, who came on as a substitute, launched himself into a two-footed challenge which earned a lecture from the Scottish referee, George Smith.

The Ireland manager, Eion Hand, said: "Glenn caught Chris with a nasty one on the right knee. I don't think he will be fit for Saturday. I would have taken him off immediately but I had already used my three substitutes."

Tottenham, who are in the hunt for the League title, had to rule Tony Galvin out of their team for several matches earlier this season when he was injured playing for the Republic of Ireland.



Hughton: knee injury may rule him out

Millwall win to stay on course

Millwall kept up their drive for promotion from division three with a 2-1 win at Swansea City on Tuesday night, which pushed the Welsh side into even deeper relegation trouble. John Fashanu and Kevin Bremner scored Millwall's goals as they moved above Hull City into second place in the table.

Preston, battling against relegation, picked up a 2-1 win at Doncaster Rovers to end a run of 14 successive away league defeats. Burnley, also struggling pulled back from 2-0 down to gain a precious point in a 2-2 draw at Plymouth Argyle. Rotherham, without a win in seven games, beat Reading 3-0 to end the visitors' run of nine matches without defeat.

In the fourth division, Bury regained the leadership thanks to two goals by their leading scorer, Craig Madden, in a 2-1 win over Stockport County. Blackpool and Colchester United, both chasing promotion, drew 1-1 while Exeter City snatched a 3-2 win at Halifax Town.

In the freight Rover trophy, second round, Lincoln City beat Darlington 3-1 but both sides continue in the competition. Lincoln booked a third-round trip to York City and Darlington, who also qualify as the highest scoring losers, will visit Bolton Wanderers.

Meeting today on Luton riot

Exactly a week after handing their report to the Government, the Football Association's own disciplinary commission meet at Luton today to sit in judgement on crowd violence.

They are to consider whether Luton Town or the FA Cup visitors, Millwall, were to blame for the violence at Kenilworth Road a fortnight ago which appalled millions of television viewers and led to the personal intervention of the Prime Minister.

As at the recent hearing over the Chelsea-Sunderland match violence, the commission will confine themselves to the adequacy of precautions taken by both clubs to prevent trouble by supporters. Luton's charge extends to all safety and security aspects and the commission are expected to be particularly interested in the extent of pre-match liaison between the two clubs and the police.

Bedfordshire Police also will give evidence, though the FA have no power to act should they feel there was inadequate policing.

How much the commission will concern themselves with the events outside the ground before and after the match – trains were wrecked and thousands of pounds worth of damage inflicted on houses and shops in the area – remains to be seen. The clubs could be questioned about their arrangements in this area.

Glen Kirton, and FA spokesman, said: "Clubs are expected to take responsibility for arrangements in connection with the game to ensure good order from spectators. When it is not inside the ground it is not strictly speaking the responsibility of the clubs, but they would need to show they had liaised together on matters which could be related to that."

The commission are unlikely to announce a verdict today and with the results of their exchange with Mrs Thatcher expected in the near future, it might be found diplomatic to delay any result for at least a week.

Millwall have a poor record in relation to their spectators; Luton's is considerably better.

Droy fills a vacancy at Palace

Mickey Droy has joined Crystal Palace after 14 years with Chelsea. The 33-year-old 6ft 4½ defender played more than 270 League games for Chelsea but has made only one senior appearance in the last two years. Earlier this season he had a spell on loan to Luton.

Droy, who joined Palace on a free transfer, was the last playing link at Stamford Bridge with the Chelsea team of the 1970s which won the FA Cup, the European Cup Winners' Cup and were beaten finalists in the League Cup. He was expected to move to Portsmouth before Chrsitmas but should now make his debut at the Palace against Sheffield United on Saturday.

"He is a big man and we want him to do a big job for us," Steve Coppell, the Crystal Palace manager said. "he can dominate in the defence and his experience should prove invaluable in the hectic final weeks of the season."

● Derby County have agreed to pay £40,000 for Geraint Williams, the Bristol Rovers midfield player. The Welsh under-21 international, who was in the Rover's side which drew at Derby on Saturday, travelled back to the Baseball Ground yesterday to complete the forms.

● Dave Bamber, the Portsmouth centre-forwaard has rejected a £20,000 transfer to olton Wanderers. He has only been at Fratton Park for four months

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: England 2, Republic of Ireland 1
SECOND DIVISION: Postponed: Charlton Athletic v Sheffield United
THIRD DIVISION: Doncaster Rovers 1, Preston 2; Plymouth Agyle 2, Burnley 2; Rotherham United 3, Reading 0.
FOURTH DIVISION: Blackpool 1, Colchester United 1, Bury 2, Stockport County 1; Halifax Town 2, Exeter City 3
FREIGHT ROVER TROPHY: Second round: Darlington 1, Lincoln City 3 (Lincoln away to York)
SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Airdrieonians 1, Ayr United 2
SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Raith Rovers 3, Queen of the South 0; Stranraer 2, Albion Rovers 3
UNDER-23 INTERNATIONAL: West Germany 0, Switzerland 0
EUROPEAN UNDER-18 CHAMPIONSHIP: Netherlands 2, Northern Ireland 1.
UNDER-21 INTERNATIONAL: Czechoslavakia 1, Switzerland 0
WEST GERMAN CUP: Quarter-final: Bayer Leverkusen 1, Bayern Mumich 3
FRENCH LEAGUE: Metz 1, Bordeaux 1; Rouen 1, Nantes 0; Racing 0, Toulon 1; Monaco 0, Toulouse 0; Sochaux 4, Brest 2; Lens 4, Paris Saint Germain 2; Strasbourg 2, Lilla 1; Laval 2, Nancy 2; Marseilles 3, Tours 2.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Bradford City 3, Sheffield Wednesday 1; Derby 5, Newcastle 2; Everton 0, Aston Villa 1; Huddersfield 0, Blackburn 3; Notts County 1, Manchester United 2. Second division: Oldham 2, Leicester 3.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Crystal Palace 3, Reading 0; Fulham 2, Portsmouth 0; Luton 1, West Ham 2; Queen's Park Rangers 2, Arsenal 2; Southampton 1, Swindon 1.
GOLA LEAGUE: Frickley 0, Dagenham 2; Runcorn 1, Kidderminster 2.
SERVOWARM ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop's Stortford 2, Leytonstone/Ilford 1. First division: St Albans 2, Tilbury 2; Wokking 2, Hampton 2. Second division north: Finchley 2, Kingsbury 0; Rackwall Heath 2, Chalfont St Peter 1; Heybridge 2, Marlow Stevenage 1, Tring 1; Ware 0, Harefield 0. Second division south: Chertsey 0, Camberley 2
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Stafford 4, Bangor City 1; Cup: Semi-finals: First leg: Matlock 1, Marine 1; Macclesfield 1, South Liverpool 1.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: King's Lynn 0, Chelmsford 1. Midland division: Coventry Sporting 2, Redditch 4; Oldbury 1, Aylesbury 3.
EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Colchester 4, Bury Town 5; Histon 2, Felixstowe 2; Gorleston 4, Lowestoft 0.
SOUTH-EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Semi-finals: Tottenham 2, Portsmouth 0.
CHATHAM RELIANCE CUP: Semi-final: Folkestone 2, Thanet 1.
EAST ANGLIAN CUP: Group final: Saffron Walden 3, Royston 0.

RUGBY UNION
CLUB MATCH: Penarth 4, Newport 54.

RUGBY LEAGUE
FIRST DIVISION: Castleford 28, Hull 18; Wigan 28, Oldham 2.

RUGBY UNION

Thorburn answers a higher call

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The selection of Thorburn, the Neath full back, by Wales for their game with France on Saturday has robbed the Welsh Students of one of their leading players for the game with French Students at Le Creusot tomorrow evening. Various other students have been carried off to the international sevens tournament in Hong Kong by Crawshay's Welsh and the Public Schools Wanderers. But the students can still raise a side with considerable first-class experience.

The annual encounter between the Welsh and the English Students takes place on April 4 at Swansea, sponsored by Kodak, with the English having achieved mixed results under their various designations this season. The English Universities beat their Welsh counterparts 15–7 earlier this month, but the Universities Athletic Union lost to British Polytechnics 21–12 last week.

WELSH STUDENTS (v French Students): P Greenway (London University); K Morgan (South Glamorgan Institute), D Wood (South Glamorgan Institute), N Davies (Polytechnic of Wales), E Ellis (Aberystwyth University); D Evans (Aberdare CS), A Jones (Swansea University), H Bevan (South Glamorgan Institute), P Johnson (South Glamorgan Institute), M Waygood (Brighton Polytechnic), M Whitson (South Glamorgan Institute), T Shaw (Polytechnic of Wales, captain), J Collins (London University), J Evans (South Glamorgan Institute), S Russell (South Bank Polytechnic).

Smith returns

Simon Smith, Richmond stand-off, returns for Saturday's London merit table match against Metropolitan Police at the Athletic Ground. Smith was unavailable for last week's 20–10 victory over Ebbw Vale, when Martin Humberstone deputised. Richmond have won only three of their eight merit table matches this season.

The game kicks off at 12.30 to avoid clashing with the televised international matches.

CRICKET



Imran: valuable asset

Sussex will have Imran for one-day games

Imran Khan, the Pakistan Test all-rounder, will play in all one-day matches and a restricted number of county championship fixtures for Sussex this season. The Sussex chief coach, Stewart Storey, said: "We feel we have our best chance of honours and although Imran has agred to play in 10 championships games if we are challenging for the title, he will also play in the run-in. We aim to play it carefully with Imran, and treat him as the valuable asset he is".

Imran, aged 32, was out of the team last season with a serious shin injury and will team up with the South African fast bowler, Garth Le Roux. Le Roux returns on April 14, having recovered from the virus which caused him lose a stone in weight.

The England fast bowler, Tony Piggott, is making another effort to come back after missing nearly the whole of last season with back and shin injuries, but Storey warns the next two months are critical and could determine his future in the game.

Square bashing for Yorkshire

Yorkshire's cricket squad are to train with the Army before the start of the season. They will join the 8th Signal Regiment, Royal Corps of Signals at Catterick next week for daily runs and circuit training.

An Army spokesman said the cricketers would find the training "very arduous". The squad of 20 will be accommodated in the officers' mess and the bill for bed and board for five days will be £2,000.

IN BRIEF

Samaranch's summit in Moscow

Essen, West Germany, (Agencies) – Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, revealed here yesterday that he is to go to Moscow in July to discuss with Sovet sports officials the problems of the holding of the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, the South Korean capital the visit, which will follow the IOC session in Berlin, from June 3–6, is the main outcome of a meeting in Switzerland last week between Samaranch and Marat Gramor, the Soviet sports minister, who suggested a possible initiatie over the Seoul games, to which the Soviets have raised strong objections.

● Top Soviet figure-skaters arrived in Seoul yesterday for the first ever sports visit to South Korea by Soviet citizens. The party, including two world champions, Katarina Witt, of East Germany, and Alexander Fadeyeer are on the final leg of a far-east exhibition tour, following the recent World Championships of Tokyo.

SNOOKER: Eugene Hughes, a member of the Ireland team which won the Guinness World Cup on Saturday, scored his second win in three meetings against Ray Reardon in their first-round Benson and Hedges Irish Masters match in County Kildare, yesterday. Hughes beat Reardon 5–0 to earn a quarter-final place against Steve Davis, the holder, tomorrow.

Reardon, who has worn spectacles in his last two tournaments, yesterday discarded them favour of a green eyeshade but still complained about the lighting. Hughes made a break of 66 in winning the opening frame, scored black-ball wins in the second and fourth, and comfortably won the third and fifth, the latter with a break of 59.

CURLING: Denmark and Italy surprised the favourites yesterday at the world championships in Glasgow. Denmark defeated Canada 6-3, and the under-rated Italians raced ahead of Norway for a 6-2 win.

GOLF: Four of the world's leading players will take part in a A$500,000 ($350,000) sudden-death event in Sydney next month. Jack Nicklaus and Tom Watson of the United States, Greg Norman of Australia and Severiano Ballesteros of Spain will compete in the tournament, scheduled for April 27 and 28. The quartet will compete for up to A$30,000, outright winner-take-all on each hole.

Wembley date sweetens bygone bitterness

Clarke revels in Wigan cheer

RUGBY LEAGUE DIARY
Keith Macklin

In 1966 Colin Clarke was 20 years old, headstrong and confident, when a disciplinary committee decision gave him the bitterest moment of his young life, and, to use his own words, "knocked me bowlegged". Clarke, hooker for his home town club, Wigan, was looking forward to his second successive Challenge Cup final, and a record of "two Wembley medals by the time I was 20".

Wigan, having beaten Hunslet in the magnificent 1965 final with young Clarke in the side, were at Wembley again in a derby match against the Traditional rivals, St Helens, which packed the stadium. Clarke was walking on air at the prospect.

Then, in a game against Hull Kingston Rovers a fortnight before the final that May, he was sent off after only four scrums and 18 minutes for "persistent foot-up". He did not worry greatly about it, since disciplinary committees have a reputation for mercy towards Wembley finalists. Not so on this occasion, for they banned Colin Clarke for two games, he missed the final, which Wigan lost through starvation of possession, and he spent weeks "moping about and disillusioned".

Nearly 20 years later, Clarke's bitterness and disillusionment are well behind him, despite the fact that he has seen "Wembley mercy" dispensed to several players since 1966. Once again, he is walking on air in the town where he was born and bred. Wigan, shattered by Widnes at Wembley last year, are back at the great stadium again, and Clarke is the coach in harness with Alan McInnes, the former Salford half-back.

Last yea, Clarke was coach under Alex Murphy, and suffered his second cruel disappointment as Widnes romped away effortlessly with the cup. "All that's behind us now," Clarke said.

He was born in Poolstock, right in the centre of the Lancashire colliery town, and was educated at All-Saints School, a stone's throw from his home. He acknowledges a big debt to his schoolmaster, Derek Hurst, who advised him to specialise in the ball-getting job of hooker. Clarke practised the art under Hurst's guidance with the colts team at Orrell Rugby Union Club, and was so effective in the scrum and loose that Wigan snapped him up.

Then came Wembley in 1965, international caps, and Great Britain tours, a career temporarily soured by the 1966 blow. After retiring from playing, he went into coaching, and was with Murphy at Leigh when Wigan's neighbours won the championship in 1981. He went back to Wigan under Murphy, and when the volatile Alex was sacked last summer, moved with McInnes to share the top spot.

Clarke was a fitter at Leyland Motors for 20 years, but now has his own business partnership in Standish, at the posh end of Wigan. He has a wife, Margaret, and two sons, Andrew and Philip, Philip having played rugby league at Wembley for Wigan Schoolboys in an under-11 curtain-raiser. Clarke has never been happier. "The feeling in the town is wonderful. It's like the sixties, when Boston, Ashton, and McTigue were in their pomp and Wigan ruled the roost. When Wigan are strong, the game of rugby league is strong, and in every factory, office, pub and club they do nothing else but talk rugby. People walk round the streets wearing cherry and white caps, hats, sweaters and scarves.

"We know we have a better team this year than last year, and Wigan are playing the kind of football the fans want to watch, moving the ball about and using the wingers. There's a tremendous spirit among the players, and the directors are behind us up to the hilt. If we need money to buy players, they provide it, but we will only buy the best."

In addition, Wigan have the backing of sponsorship from Dave Whelan the former Blackburn Rovers full back, and his J J B Sports company.

Last year Wigan took nearly 40,000 supporters to Wembley, an incredible figure from a town whose population is around 100,000. This year they expect to take even more, and Colin Clarke does not expect that either he or they will be disappointed.

Britain call up Peters

There is one surprise, the choice of the St Helens utility back, Steve Peters, and several positional experiments in the squad of players announced yesterday for Great Britain's training in preparation for the visit of New Zealand later this year (Keith Macklin writes). The positional changes involve switches by Shaun Edwards (Wigan) and Ellery Hanley (Bradford Northern).

Four players have asked not to be considered. They are the Widnes half back Tony Myler, the Warrington backs Ronnie Duane and Andy Gregory and the Hull Kingston Rovers winger, Garry Clark. The coach, Maurice Bamford, has selected nine players, despite the fact that they will be playing in Australia in the summer. They are Drummond, Schofield, Hanley, Harkin, Hoble, Crooks, Goodway, Rathbone and Divorty.

SQUAD: Backs: M Burke (Widnes), G Fairbairns (Hull KR), C Johnson (Leigh), D Drummond, (leigh), J Lydon (Widnes), P Ford (Wigan), H Gill (Wigan), B Ledger (St Helens), S Schofield (Hull), V Gallobin (Whitehaven), E Hanley (Bradford Northern), D Grandage (Leeds), D Stephenson (Wigan), K O'Loughlin (Widnes), S Peters (St Helens) S Edwards (Wigan), D Fox (Featherstone), P Harkin (Hull KR), R Beardmore (Castleford). Forwards: L Crooks (Hull), R Dieldmann (Leeds), A Burke (St Helens), M O'Neill (Widnes), A Goodway (Oldham), A Dannatt (Hull), K Beardmore (Castleford), D Watkinson (Hull KR), B. Noble (Bradford Northern), D Noble (Featherstone), A Rathbone (Bradford Northern), I Potter (Wigan), J Fieldhouse (Widnes), C Burton (Hull KR), A Platt (St Helens); G Diverty (Hull), C Arkwright (St Helens), H Pitman (St Helens).

● Fulham have asked the New Zealand Rugby League to extend clearance for their three New Zealand players. Tawera, Townsend and Keto are due to play their final match at York on Sunday, but Fulham want them available for the last six matches of the season.

Fulham match to be staged at Wealdstone

Wealdstone, a Gola League football club, are to stage Fulham's Rugby League match against Whitehaven on Sunday, April 14.

Fulham are leaving the National Sports Centre, Crystal Palace, at the end of the season and played Runcorn Highfield at the Central London Polytechnic ground in Chiswick last Sunday.

Roy Lester, the Fulham manager, said: "Crystal Palace is unavailable on April 14 and the Chiswick ground is being reseeded. Wealdstone are very interested in the attraction to Rugby League and we are determined to return nearer our roots in west London next season."

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL
GOLA LEAGUE: Bob Lord Trophy, semi-final: Enfield v Maidstone, Runcorn v Altrincham.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Derby v Sheffield Wednesday; Newcastle v Huddersfield; Stoke City v Nottingham Forest (7.0)
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Charlton v Southampton.
SERVOWARM ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bognor Regis Town v Hendon (7.45) First division: Boreham Wood v Stamea Town; Leatherhead v Bromley, St Albans City v Metropolitan Police, Wembley v Hertford Town. Second division north: Hanngey Borough v Finchley; Royston Town v Cheshunt; Wolverton Town v Leyton Wingate
HITACHI CUP: Fourth round: Wycombe Wanderers v Harrow Borough. Semi-final: Sutton United v Farnborough.
SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Second division Cup: semi-final: Swindon Town v Brighton.

HOCKEY
TOURNAMENT: B.U.S.F Group Championship (Southampton University 9.30)

RUGBY UNION
SCHOOLS
SEVENS TOURNAMENT:
National Sevens Junior Festival (Roselyn Park RFC, Roehampton, 10.40)
SPEEDWAY: Challenge matches: Sheffield v Belle Vue: Middlesbrough v Long Eaton. Premiership: Ipswich v Cradley Heath.

OTHER SPORT
GOLF: Sunningdale Ladies Foursomes (Sunningdale G.C.); London Ladies Foursomes (Hindhead G.C.)
TENNIS: LTA Winter Series Finals (Telford Racquets Centre)
RACKETS: Public Schools Doubles (Queen's Club, West Kensington)
REAL TENNIS: George Wimpey Amateur Singles (Queen's Club, West Kensington)
SNOOKER: Benson & Hedges Irish Masters (Goffs, Co. Kildare)
BOWLS: Croft Original British Open (Darlington).
CURLING: Air Canada World Championship (Glasgow).

SQUASH RACKETS: Gawain Briars, of Britain, the world number 12, won the Dutch Open on Tuesday when he beat Gamal Awad of Egypt, the number 14, in a five-game marathon at The Hague. Briars finally triumphed 7-9, 9-2, 10-8, 8-10, 9-7.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL
UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA): Milwaukee Bucks107, Washington Bullets 96; Cleveland Cavaliers 112, New York Knicks 96; Dallas Mavericks 134, Golden State Warriors 107, Chicago Bulls 120, Indiana Pacers 119; Houston Rockets 115, Kansas City Kings 93; New Jersey Nets 109, Atlanta Hawks 108; Detroit Pistons 119, Phoenix Suns 88; Denver Nuggets 104, Utah Jazz 89; Portland Trail Blazers 118, Los Angeles Lakers 113.

BOXING
WEMBLEY: European featherweight championship (12 rounds): Barry McGuigan (GB) bt Fiana Galiouse (Fr), second round. Southern area featherweight championship and eliminator for British championship (10 rounds): Jim McDonnell bt Clyde Rusen, pts. Bantamweight (six rounds): Roy Webb bt Jimmy Bott, 6th round. Light-welterweight) (four rounds): David Irving bt Mark Simpson, ko. Heavyweight (10 rounds): Frank Bruno bt Lucien Rodriguez (Fr), first round.

TENNIS
FORT MEYERS: Florida Classic: Men's singles, first round: E Teltscher (US) bt M Bauer (US), 6-4, 3-6, 6-1; J Fitzgerald (Aus) bt R Krishnan (Ind), 6-7, 7-6, 6-4; B Testerman (US) bt F Gonzalez (Par), 6-7, 7-5, 6-4; S Giammalva (US) bt D Pate (US), 6-4, 7-5; J Connors (US) bt P Doohan (Aus), 6-7, 6-1, 8-2.
MILAN: Grand Prix tournament: Men's singles, first round: T Smid (Cz) bt C Panatta (It), 6-3, 7-5; V Gerulaitis (US) bt D Visser (SA), 6-2, 6-7, 6-4; A Jarryd (Swe) bt S Colombo (It), 6-3, 6-4; J Sadri (US) bt P Slozil (Cz), 6-3, 6-4.
PALM BEACH GARDENS: Challenge Round women's tournament: Singles, first round: P Delfosse-Jauch (Switz) bt C Benjamin (US), 7-5, 6-2; B Herr (US) bt V Nelson (US), 6-2, 6-3; S Goles (Yug) bt F Bonsignori (It), 6-4, 6-1; C Kerlsson (Swe) bt E Minter (Aus), 6-7, 7-6, 6-2; I Buderova (Cz) bt L Spain-Short (US), 7-5, 6-4; T Phelps (US) bt K Maleeva (Bul), 6-4, 7-5; A Smith (US) bt Shelly Solomon (US) 4-6, 6-2, 6-4; S Mascarin (US) bt B Gerkin, 6-7, 6-2, 6-3.
TUNIS: ATP tournament: First round: P Elter (WG) bt T Benhabiles (Fr) 5-7, 6-2, 7-5; D Keretic (WG) bt L Duncan (GB) 6-3, 5-7, 4-5 (withdrew); H Schwaier (WG) bt M Soudani (Tuinsia) 6-2, 5-1; G Urpi (Sp) bt F Cancelotti (It) 7-6, 6-0; O Freund (WG) bt C Limberger (Aust) 6-7, 6-3, 7-5; E Sanchez (Sp) bt H Gildemeister (Chile) 7-6, 6-4; J Arrendano (Sp) bt R Arguello (Arg) 6-4, 6-2.

BADMINTON
Grand PRIX STANDINGS: Men's singles: 1, M Frost (Den) 895pts; 2, Zhao Jianhua (China 770, 3, Han Jian (China) 640; 4, L Pongot (Indonesia) 600; 5, S Baddeley (Eng) 530; 6, M Kjeldsen (Den) 515; 7, H Arbi (Indonesia) 485 8, N Yates (Eng) 445; 9, Yang Yang (China; 440; 10, I Frederiksen (Den) 410; 11, Padukone (India) 405; 12, M Sidek (Malaysia) 360. Women's singles: 1, K Larsen (Den) 975 2, Zheng Yuk (China) 880; 3, Han Aiping (China) 640; Wu Jiangju (China) 640; 5, H Troke (Eng) 600.

CURLING
GLASGOW: Air Canada Silver Broom World Championships: Fourth session: Italy 4, Sweden 9; Canada 10, England 2; Switzerland 2, West Germany 8; Norway 5, Denmark 4; United States 8, Scotland 4. Fifth Session: Canada 3, Denmark 8, Sweden 8, Scotland 8; Italy 8, Norway 2; Switzerland 5, United States 6; W Germany 9, England 8. Positions after five games:

SNOOKER
BENSON AND HEDGES IRISH MASTERS: First round: J White bt A Meo 6-1; E Charlton (Aus) bt Dennis Taylor 6-4.

FOOTBALL
WORLD CUP: Asian group one, sub-group B: Qatar 6, Lebanon 0 (in Doha).

ICE HOCKEY
NORTH AMERICA: National League (NHL): Detroit Red Wings 5, Minnesota North Stars 1; Montreal Canadiens 5, Boston Bruins 3; Quebec Nordiques 4, Buffalo Sabres 3; New York Rangers 5, Pittsburgh Penguins 4; Edmonton Oilers 7, New York Islanders 5.
FRIBOURG: World Championship: Group B: Italy 6, Hungary 1; Switzerland 2, Poland 2.

SQUASH RACKETS
TORONTO: Canadian Open final: Jahangir Kan (Pak) bt M Talbott (US) 15-8, 15-9, 10-15, 15-11
THE HAGUE: Dutch Open final: G Briars (GB) bt Gamal Awad (Eg), 7-9, 9-2, 10-8, 8-10, 9-7.

HOCKEY: Wales' women players will be the first British sports team to play in Argentina since the Falklands war when the Intercontinental Cup starts today. Wales will play Argentina in Buenos Aires on Sunday. Both countries are in Group A, along with Japan, Jamaica, Uruguay and Paraguay, with Wales favourites to reach the semi-finals. The two finalists qualify for the 1986 World Cup in Canada.

BOXING

McGuigan secures £1.7m world title bout with Pedroza in London

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Barry McGuigan appears finally to have collared Eusebio Pedroza, the World Boxing Association champion. McGuigan's manager B. J. Eastwood, announced yesterday in London after talks going into the early hours of Wednesday morning he had managed to iron out details and that the champion had agreed to meet McGuigan in London before July 10.

The sticking points of Pedroza insisting that if McGuigan won he would have to defend against Bernard Taylor in Tennessee for £40,000 and then, if victorious again, have to face Pedroza in his home town of Panama City, are believed to have been bought out by the Eastwood Organisation for £240,000. McGuigan is now a "free man" and can negotiate future defences with being tied down by options.

As a result of the extra expenditure to induce the world champion to box McGuigan the championship could be the most expensive to be staged in Britain, topping £1.7 million.

McGuigan said: "This is the news I have waited for since the age of 12 when I started boxing. It has been a long and difficult time for my manager and he has pulled it off and I hope now that I can pull it off."

McGuigan can expect a tougher fight than the one he had against Farid Gallouze, of France on Tuesday. It was a mismatch that he had to go through with or be stripped of his European title. Once McGuigan had dropped Gallouze in the second round and started opening up, Gallouze's corner pulled their man out.

What a fiasco! But most disgusted of all were the British Boxing Board of Control who had twice asked the European Boxing Union to cancel Gallouze's nomination because he was ill-equipped to take on the world class Irishman.

"I almost came to blows with the French Federation man, Raymond Baldeyrou, at the Geneva meeting over Gallouze", Ray Clarke, secretary of the board, said yesterday. "But they voted five to four in Gallouze's favour. The disgraceful show on Tuesday night should be laid at the door of the French Federation and the EBU."

Clarke said that after protests in 1981 by the board about substandard challengers for Charlie Magri, the EBU had promised to look carefully at single nominations particularly, but clearly had lapsed into their bad old ways.

"It was a bad night for European boxing" Clarke said "Gallouze looked like a 'gone' fighter. He couldn't even take a straight left. I wouldn't even let him fight Clyde Ruan or Jim McDonnell. If it had not been a title fight we would have stopped him boxing."

The board do not intend to be in the position of helpless watchers again. Clarke said that he would make a report to the board, who would write to the French Federation and the EBU in the strongest terms.

Lucien Rodriguez, another Frenchman, was even worse against Frank Bruno. Rodriguez, a former European champion, should have known better than to first try and put as great a distance as possible between him and the advancing Bruno and then to be trapped in his corner and finished off with a right in the first round.

But what worried me more was the Bruno left that teed Rodriguez up. It looked like the arm of a man trying to open a car door with a coat hanger through a slightly open window. It should not have prised the guard ajar for Bruno to steer in the right.

Third title defence for Cowdell

Pat Cowdell, the European super featherweight champion, will have to travel to Liège to make a third defence of his title on May 10. His opponent will be the man from whom he won the title – Jean Marc Renard, of Belgium.

It will be Cowdell's first trip abroad for a bout since he returned to boxing in May last year after retiring for months. Cowdell who outpointed Renard in Birmingham last July, will receive £21,000, plus television fees if the bout is shown in this country. Eleven days ago, he made his second defence of the title, outpointing the Spaniard, Carlos Hernandez also in Birmingham.

RUGBY UNION

Wales call in new prop Evans

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Stuart Evans, the Swansea tight head prop, will win his first cap for Wales on Saturday after the main training sessions yesterday for the Welsh and France, their opponents at Parc des Princes, produced changes to both teams. Evans will take the place of Eidman (Cardiff), while the French have lost Lorieux from their second row and recall Orso.

Evans, aged 22, and a welder in Port Talbot, won rapid promotion after Eidman discovered he had aggravated back trouble during Cardiff's win over Pontypool at the weekend. He has a history of back injuries and missed games for Wales in 1983, his first international season, and last year.

Evans established himself with Swansea last season after winning a youth cap for Wales. At 17 stone and 6ft 1in he has all the physical attributes, but will have his plate full against the experienced Dospital. The Swansea player wa not chosen for the B international with France in Newport last November, when the tight head position was filled by Francis (Maesteg).

Lorieux withdrew from the French team with a shoulder injury acquired during training with his club, Grenoble, on Sunday. Orso (Nice) who has played lock and No 8 for his country will win his tenth cap after appearing as a replacement during the drawn game with Ireland. Erbani (Agen) joins the French bench for Saturday's game.



Evans: first cap

A further advance by Italy

By David Hands

England 16-Group	3
Italy	9

The unfettered joy with which the Italians greeted victory by a goal and a penalty goal to a penalty in this 16-Group schools international, sponsored by Phillips Petroleum, at Twickenham yesterday was the most expressive part of the proceedings.

In all other respects, there was little cause for rejoicing except in so far as the Italians were concerned. They appear to be catching up on several fronts: they lost by the odd point to England at Colts level earlier this month and will be hoping for victory over England B next month.

The England boys had a comfortable win over the Dutch on Sunday but found themselves considerably outweighed by Italy yesterday, despite the dislocated shoulder sustained by Copersino, the visiting prop. There was no area in which England established definite superiority, and possession gradually withered. Even in the first half, when they had a good supply of lineout ball from Horrobin, their outstanding player, the backs seldom looked like capitalizing on it.

The midfield passing left much to be desired, so much so that the wings invariably had to cope with boy and ball together. If the Italians did nothing else on their first visit to England they tackled, and they were relatively heedless of how they won the ball, as the penalty count of 20–7 in England's favour suggests.

Nor could England kick their goals. Of six penalty attempts, by Painter and Harwood, the standoff half scored only once. That goal levelled the scores after Macchia had punished England for not releasing the ball in the tackle.

The decisive try came just before half-time when Locke could make no more of a high kick than to run it into touch five metres from his own line. The Italians forced a scrum and Casellato slipped over on the open side. The second half was pointless in every way.

SCORERS: England: Penalty: Painter. Italy: Try: Casellato. Conversion: Macchia. Penalty: Macchia.

ENGLAND 16 GROUP: S M Locke (Saintbridge, Gloucester); C T Harwood (Edgware), J J Wilson (Queen's College, Taunton), S J Moses (King's, Worcester), D A Smith (Guiseley, Leeds); S D Painter (King's College, Taunton), B P Fenley (Cheltenham GS); A V Sharp (Henbury), A J Hetherington (Barnard Castle), P E Drew (Richard Lander, Truro), R J Pool-Jones (King's, Macclesfield), M J Ellis (Lusterworth GS), J K Horrobin (Royal Forest of Dean GS), L H D Conway (Dame Allan's), D R Edward's (Tunbridge Wells GS).

ITALY: N Macchia (Peroni Lazio); L Manteri (Livorno), A Pesce (Benetton), M. Molina (Scavolini), E Pirotto (Fracasso); S Broili (Milano), U Casellato (Benetton); F Copersino (Scavolini), E Taschetta (Vetania), S Bossi (Codogno), G Sauro (Petrarca), M Martan (Persol), G Garibbo (Benetton), A Moscardi (Rovigo), S Trumpl (Livorno).

Referee: D E Parry-Jones (Wales).

Welsh depleted

Six of the side who helped London Welsh reach the John Player Special Cup final for the first time at Coventry last weekend miss Saturday's game against Swansea at Old Deer Park. Ackerman is with Wales in Paris, Bowring at the Hong Kong sevens, Clive Rees injured, and the club provide three of the Welsh Students team against France – Greenway Colling and Russell.

Neath top of the form

By Peter Marson

Neath, who had played supremely well in all their matches from first to last were worthy 20-10 winners of the national schools open tournament at Roehampton yesterday, beating a gallant Nottingham seven fairly comfortably in the final by two goals and two tries to a goal and a try.

Their captain and centre, Morgan, was the tournament's outstanding player, and architect of Neath's victory. When he provided the tries Williams was there to give him admirable support by kicking the goals. Williams, Jenkins, Davies and Jones each scored tries in the final, with Williams adding two conversions. Nottingham's tries came from Gardner and Drew, with a conversion from Harding.

Earlier, in the sixth round, which is where the group winners come together, there had been a host of exciting, keenly-contested matches. Extremes in the weather, heavy showers alternating with periods of bright sunshine, added a theatrical touch, as the round built to a rousing climax.

In this, Reigate displayed courage and determination as they squeezed past Belmont Abbey to win 14-12 on the whistle.

Neath's class eclipsed Birkenhead, before Millfield were given a fright in their match with RGS Guildford. Millfield's defence lapsed for the first time here and they were trailing 4-6 until the last moments, when an orthodox round of passing led to a try near the posts and a conversion.

The quarter-finals proved an easy hurdle. Nottingham coasted past Aylesbury; Llandovery and Reigate were too good for Bassaleg and Ampleforth, and Neath outran and, surprisingly, out-thought Millfield at every turn.

In the first semi-final Nottingham's victory against Llandovery was just as decisive. But, in the second, Neath and Reigate contrived to give us an outstanding match where the result remained in the balance until Neath scored the sixth and decisive try.

SCHOOLS SEVEN-A-SIDE RESULTS

Fifth round
GROUP D: Wirral 8, Duke of Yorks 4; Royal Belfast Al 4, John Fisher 8.
GROUP E: West Park 30, Magnus 5; Judd 36, Emanuel 0.
GROUP F: St Joseph's, Ipswich 4, Eltham College 10. Newcastle-under-Lyme 8, Hereford CS 14.
GROUP G: Cheshunt 4, Sevenoaks 8; Normanton 4, Llandovery 22.
GROUP H: St Anselm's 8, Bassalag 4; King Henry VIII, Coventry 14, William Ellis 0.
GROUP I: Poynton 12, Kings Worcester 24; King William IOM 4, Mount St Mary's 10.
GROUP J: Cardinal Wiseman 6, Queen Elizabeth's 36; Latymer Upper 4, RGS High Wycombe 10.
BYE ROUND: Campion 4, Nottingham HS 20.

Sixth round
Nottingham HS 20, Chislehurst and Sidcup GS 4; Aylesbury GS 20, West Park 6; Llandovery College 22, Eltham College 0; Bassaleg 12, King's, Worcester 4; Reigate GS 14, Belmont Abbey 12; Ampleforth College 8, Rhydtelan 4; Neath College 26, Birkenhead 12; Millfield 10, RGS Guildford 8.

Quarter-finals
Nottingham HS 18, Aylesbury GS 0; Llandovery College 11, Bassaleg 6; Reigate GS 16, Ampleforth College 8; Neath College 4, Millfield 0.

Semi-finals
Nottingham 18, Llandovery 4; Neath 16, Reigate 12.

Final
Nottingham 10, Neath 20.

FESTIVAL TOURNAMENT
GROUP A: Stamford 8, Marlborough 12; Chiswick 6, Brighton College 22.
GROUP B: Ipswich 0, Bedford Modern 28; Ryde 8, Bedford's 28.
GROUP C: Dousi 8, Cotton College 4; Malvern 0, King's Taunton 20.
GROUP D: Trent 24, Ardingly College 6; Haydon 8, Wellington College 12.
GROUP E: Epsom College 30, Langley Park 4; Leys, Cambridge 0, Christ's College Brecon 20.
GROUP F: Taunton 12, Gresham's 10; Whitgift 16, Radley College 14.
GROUP G: Downside 4, Lord Williams 10; Wycliffe 0, Bedford GS 26.
GROUP H: Haberdashers Aske's 12, St John's, Leatherhead 12; Worcester Royal 22, Wellington 8.
GROUP I: Luton VI Form College 4, Culford 28; Oratory 8, Charterher's College 18.
GROUP J: Prior Park 0, Monmouth 26; Kingswood 4, Wellingborough 12.

Second round
GROUP A: Bearwood 6, Marlborough 14; Brighton 16, Stamford 8.
GROUP B: Wimbledon 14, Bedford Modern 10; Blundells 16, Ipswich 5.
GROUP C: Loughborough 4, Cotton College 10; King's Taunton 28, Dousi 0.
GROUP D: Cavendish 12, Ardingly 4; Wellington College 18, Trent 16.
GROUP E: Christ's Hospital 12, Langley Park 4; Christ's, Brecon 12, Epsom 4.
GROUP F: Oakham 24, Greshams 0; radley 14, Taunton 0.
GROUP G: St Edward's 0, Lord Williams 26; Bedford 36, Downside 0.
GROUP H: Cranleigh 15, St John's 4; Wellington 4 Haberdashers 18
GROUP I: Queen's, Taunton 10, Culford 4; Churchers 20, Lucon VI Form 4.
GROUP J: St George's 14, Monmouth 8; Wellingborough 6, Prior Park 0.

Third round
Group A: Stamford 18, Bearwood 4; Chiswick 10, Marlborough 14.
Group B: Ipswich 14, Wimbledon 10; Ryde 18, Bedford Modern 8.
Group C: Dousi 4, Loughborough 10; Malvern 18, Cotton College 14.
Group D: Trent 32, Cavendish 8; Haydon 10, Ardingly 4.
Group E: Epsom 34, Christ's Hospital 8; Ley's School 18, Langley Park 0.
Group F: Taunton 4, Oakham 14; Whitgift 24, Greshams 0.
Group G: Downside 8, St Edward's (Oxford) 0; Wycliffe 0, Lord Williams 26.
Group H: Haberdashers 4, Cranleigh 18; Worcester 12, St Johns 8.
Group I: Luton VI Form 0, Queen's, Taunton 20; Oratory 10, Culford 10.
Group J: Prior Park 6, St George's 14; Kingswood 0, Monmouth 22.

Fourth round
GROUP A: Brighton 34, Bearwood 0; Stamford 12, Chiswick 0.
GROUP B: Blundells 16, Wimbledon 10; Ipswich 0, Ryde 20.
GROUP C: Kings Taunton 18, Loughborough 0; Dousi 6, Malvern 8.
GROUP D: Wellington Colley 28, Cavendish 4; Trent 26, Haydon 0.

● *The following results were received too late for inclusion in yesterday's early editions.*

Fourth round
GROUP H: St Anselm's wo, William Ellis scr; Plymouth 0, Bassalag 10.
GROUP I: Mount St Mary's 15, Poynton 8; St Bees 0, King's Worcester 24.
GROUP J: RGS High Wycombe 24, Cardinal Wiseman 0; Reigate 22, Queen Elizabeth 0.
GROUP K: Sir Thomas Picton 12, St Bede's 6; City of London Freemans 0, Belmont Abbey 22.
GROUP L: Ellesmere 8, Newport Free GS 6; Ampleforth 34, Solihull 0.
GROUP M: Rhyd Felen 22, St Mary's, Liverpool 6; Tiffin 0, Wimbledon 16.
GROUP N: Truthah 10, Truro 10; Stonyhurst 26, King Edward VI, Nunseaton 0.
GROUP O: St Olave's 8, Verulam 15; Cwmtawe 0, Strisenhead 14.
GROUP P: St Edmund's, Ware 5, St Benedict's 8; Cowley 4, RGS Guildford 32.
GROUP Q: St Illyd's 12, Nunthorpe 8; Millfield 22, Manchester GS 0.

Fifth round
GROUP A: Chichester 12, Campion 16; Austin Friars 0, St Edwards, Liverpool 18.
GROUP B: Whitehaven 4, St Mary's and St Joseph 22; Gunnersbury 8, Sir William Borlase 6.
GROUP C: Durham 18, King's, Macclesfield 8; Maidstone 26, Bishop Wand 0.
GROUP K: St Bede's 0, Belmont Abbey 34; Merchant Taylors 10, Sir Thomas Picton 4.
GROUP L: Newport Free GS 20, Solihull 8; London Oratory 4, Ellesmere 10.
GROUP M: St Mary's, Liverpool 10, Wimbledon 8; Warwick 8, Rhyd Felen 22.
GROUP N: Truro 8, King Edward VI, Nunseaton 4; Neath College 28, Ruthen 0.
GROUP O: Verulam 0, Birkenhead 18; Wrekin 6, St Olave's 18.
GROUP P: St Benedict's 0, RGS Guildford 4; Tasker Milward 22, St Edmund's, Ware 8.
GROUP Q: Nunthorpe 10, Manchester GS 4; St George's Harpenden 6, St Illyd's 12.

GOLF



Philip Parkin and Jenny Pool in consultation yesterday, when they lost to Sam Torrance and John O'Leary (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Hacker with a Huck Finn look

From Mitchell Platts
Ponte Vedra, Florida

Tom Watson gave a message of hope to millions of golfing "hackers" by insisting here on the eve of the Tournament Players' Championship that "at times, I feel like a 25 handicapper". Coming from a player who has won more than 40 tournaments, including five British Opens, two US Masters and one US Open, it was a clear indication that Watson is far from satisfied with his current form.

Not that his rivals, including Nick Faldo, Ken Brown, Sandy Lyle, Bernhard Langer and the defending champion, Fred Couples, will be underestimating the Watson challenge when he tees off with Severiano Ballesteros and Fuzzy Zoeller early this morning. They believe that Watson, in spite of the Huckleberry Finn looks, has reached the time in his career when, like Jack Nicklaus before him, he can raise his game according to the importance of the tournament.

Watson is not alone in regarding this event as the most likely to be recognised as the fifth major championship if the grand slam challenge of British Open, US Masters, US Open and US PGA Championship was to be extended. So he is chasing a title that he views as being valuable and which he has yet to win. Moreover, the Players' Club course offers the kind of intriguing challenge that should inspire Watson to produce his best form.

Even so, he admits: "My form is fluctuating–unlike four or five years ago when I always felt on top. Where once I would hit a bad shot, then find a way to get up and down and save my par, I now find myself getting increasingly depressed if I'm in trouble. I'm not as consistent now, and I'm certainly more hesitant and the bad shots bother me so much that at times I feel like a 25-handicapper."

Meanwhile Lyle, like Watson, is urgently seeking to correct a destructive swing. He hopes that might be assisted by the arrival of a "new" driver from home and he has reverted to using the overlapping grip rather than the interlocking version to which he switched late last year when he won three times in two months.

Ballesteros, for whom his broter, Manuel, is caddying, is clearly in good spirits following his success in the USF and G Classic two weeks ago. Curtis Strange Lanny Wadkins and Mark O'Meara, who have each won twice this year, are also brimming with confidence.

Favourites show their strength

By John Hennessy

The Sunningdale foursome came nicely to the boil yesterday. The 16 survivors include the favourites, Sam Torrance and John O'Leary, the holders, Mary McKenna and Maureen Garner (née Madill), and two other partnerships of special interest – Laura Davies and Beverley New, converted to professionalism since last year's Curtis Cup, and two probable Curtis Cup players of the future, Patricia Johnson and Nicola McCormack.

Torrance and O'Leary carried too many guns for Philip Parkin, a fellow-professional, and won by four and two in spite of conceding four strokes. An eagle two at the vulnerable 267-yard ninth, where Torrance left his partner with only a further yard and a half to negotiate, carried the men to four up. O'Leary sacrificed the 10th and 12th, once in sand and once in heather, but testing putts escaped Parkin on the 15th and 16th, and that was that.

The holders are a formidable combination, with the cushion of 10 strokes on handicap, and they have now stretched their Sunningdale record to 20 victories against one defeat. They beat two Middlesex professionals, Neil Wichelow and Paul Glozier, by two and one. Miss McKenna conceded the ninth when, in a moment of wandering concentration, she picked up her ball to replace it. Otherwise she was a model of golfing excellence, and her drive on the 17th, 15 yards beyond Wichelow's, took full advantage of the stroke they received.

Miss Davies's hackles were up after her opponents, as she believed, allowed her to play out of turn at the 17th. She opened her mighty shoulders at the 19th and drove 20 yards beyond Colin Burgess, a Fleetwood professional, to set up an improbable victory for the women with a birdie four, without a stroke, to a five.

SUNNINGDALE RESULTS

SECOND ROUND
OLD COURSE: Tickner and Rees bt Barr and Nudds, 21.

THIRD ROUND
OLD COURSE: Baldwin and Hawksworth bt Partridge and Haycock, 7 and 6; Bothwell and Wilson Bt Taylor and vickery 6 and 5; Geddes and Pearce bt Hawkins and Blenkarne, 1 hole, Hill and Hayward bt Macdonald and Cameron 5 and 3; Parkin and Miss Pool bt Smith and Hamilton-Martin, 1 hole; O'Leary and Torrance bt Beard and Honan, 3 and 1; Brown and Hoatson bt Hare and Daubney 2 and 1; Newberry and Snow bt Marchbank and White, 5 and 3; Burgess and Davies bt Harris and Hawkins, 3 and 2 Miss Davies and Miss New bt Truman and Pottinger, 7 and 5; King and Devatta bt Moore and Symonds 3 and 2; Robson and Marks bt Lawrance and Clark, 1 hole; Miss McCormack and Miss Johnson bt Peters and Pritchard, 2 and 1; Patterson and Macpherson bt Hodgson and Rollo, 19th; Huish and Miss Stewart bt Lawrance and Lawrence, 5 and 4; Tokeley and Boggia bt Green and McClelland, 2 holes.

NEW COURSE: Macdonald and Anderson bt Hinton and Jarvis, 3 and 2, Gallacher and Garner bt Palmer and Belsham, 1 hole; McLean and Cameron bt Lewenmore and Pens, retired after nine holes; Parcell and Curry bt Biggins and Lowery, 8 and 6; Winchelow and Glozier bt Stevens and Stanwick, 5 and 4; Mrs Garner and Miss McKenna bt Napier and Napier, 9 and 8; Griffin and Chandler bt Cooper and Waterhouse, 3 and 2, Randall and Froggatt bt Watkins and Cowlesham, 4 and 3, Brake and Squire bt Carr and Burn, 5 and 4, Valentine and Minshall bt McLachlan and McKay, 3 and 2; Young and Stott bt Barron and Reeves, 8 and 5; Grieve and Winchester bt Jones and Platts, 2 holes, Mrs Forrest and Miss Thomson bt Landsborough and Hudspeth, 4 and 3; Reynolds and Hall bt Coles and Coles, 19th, Fisher and de Bruin bt Tickner and Rees, 21st, Davies and Miss Scobling bt Webber and Collingbourne, 1 hole

FOURTH ROUND
(All matches on Old course). Baldwin and Hawksworth bt Bothwell and Wilson, 1 hole; Hill and Hayward bt Geddes and Pearce, 3 and 2, O'Leary and Torrance bt Parkin and Miss Pool, 4 and 2; Brown and Hoatson bt Newberry and Snow, 1 hole, Miss Davies and Miss New bt Burgess and Dawes, 19th, Robson and Marks bt King and Devetta, 2 and 1, Miss McCormack and Miss Johnson bt Patterson and MacPherson, 2 and 1, Huish and Stewart bt Tokely and Boggoe, 4 and 3, Gallacher and Garner bt Macdonald and Anderson, 8 and 5, McLean and Cameron bt Parcell and Curry, 2 and 1, Mrs Garner and Miss McKenna bt Wichelow and Glozier, 2 and 1, Griffin and Chandler bt Randall and Froggatt, 2 and 1, Valentine and Minshall bt Brake and Squire, 2 and 1, Young and Stott bt Grieve and Winchester, 2 and 1, Reynolds and Hall bt Mrs Forrest and Miss Thomson, 2 holes, Davies and Miss Scobling bt Fisher and De Bruin, 5 and 4

Faldo back

Nick Faldo, who has won the Car Care Plan International for the last two years, is to defend his title at Moortown from May 9 to 12. Ken Brown, who has been competing alongside Faldo on the American circuit since January, has also said he will be playing. The tournament, with £110,000 in prize money, is the first of the British 1985 PGA European tour season and will be televised by the BBC.

Cup rescue

The World Cup, the future of which was considered to be in jeopardy following the announcement of the new $1.2 million Dunhill Team Cup, will be played at La Quinta, Palm Springs, California, from November 28 to December 1, with the prize fund increased from $200,000 to $743,000 (about £620,000). The winning two-man team will share $200,000 (about £170,000).

DRESSAGE

Win for partners in time

By Jenny MacArthur

Alan Doxey and Wengel, a nine-year-old Hanovarian, confirmed the winning form they showed at the pre-selection trials earlier this month when they won yesterday's strongly-contested Prix St Georges class at the Dressage Selection Trials, sponsored by Orion Airways, at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire.

The two professional riders, David Hunt and Ferdi Eilberg – whose horses were competing for the first time at this level – filled second and third places. Hunt rode the impressive looking Dutch-bred Omega and Eilberg rode Lancade, an eight-year-old who, despite occasional lapses in concentration, impressed with his lovely movement and even paces. Eilberg, whose pupils include Jennie Loriston-Clarke, eight-year-old Solo.

The winning horse, Wengel, is owned by Jerrold Assersohn, who bought him two years ago from Germany for an undisclosed sum. On learning that the experienced Doxey, who he had seen competing at Goodwood, was without a suitable dressage horse, Assersohn offered him the ride.

Doxey, who spent 22 years in the Household Cavalry and then 11 years as stable manager to Lord and Lady Inchacape, is adept at getting the best out of a horse and yesterday their rhythmic, accurate test put them 16 marks ahead of the runners-up.

Pamela Sivewright and Sarah Whitmore both showed that they have made sound investments for the future. Miss Sivewright's active test on the home-bred Blazaway earned her fourth place while Miss Whitmore's Troy, an eight-year-old, took fifth place and looks set to take over from her international horse, Dutchman, when he retires.

Of the younger riders, 24-year-old Louise Francis, a pupil of David Hunt, produced one of the best tests on Fair Play VIII.

RESULTS: 1, Wengel (A Doxey), 695pts; 2, Omega (D Hunt), 679; 3, Lancade (F Eilberg), 677; 4, Blazaway (Miss P Sivewright), 676; 5, Troy (Miss S Whitmore), 656; 6, Solo (Eilberg), 654.

SNOW REPORTS

The following reports have been supplied by a tourist board:

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of piste	°C
AUSTRIA				
Alpbach	5	60		2
Brand	0	120		3
Kitzbühel	0	115		2
Mayrhofen	0	65		3
Obergurgl	60	185		–3
Saalbach	0	80		–1
St Anton	30	300		0
Seefeld	0	15		0
Söll	0	40		2
ITALY				
Bardonecchia	40	140		
Bormio	18	180		
Cervinia	100	350		
Courmayeur	150	385		
Livigno	60	170		
Macugnaga	80	250		
Madesimo	120	220		
Sauze d'Oulx	30	65		

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: Upper and middle runs complete, wide cover new snow on a firm base. Lower slopes complete, new snow on a firm base. Vertical runs: 1800 feet. Hill and main roads clear. Snow level: 1700 feet. Glenshee: Upper runs, some complete, new snow on a hard base. Vertical runs: 1000 feet. Hill and main roads: clear. Snow level: 2000 feet. Glencoe (Open Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays): Upper runs, some complete, limited nursery areas, very little snow. Vertical runs: 900 feet. Hill and main roads: clear. Snow level: 2400 feet. Lecht: Upper and middle runs complete, new snow on a firm base. Lower slopes, ample nursery areas, new snow on a firm base. Vertical runs: 700 feet. Hill roads: blocked. Main roads: clear. Snow level: 2000 feet.

ROWING

Cambridge are unhurried and unworried

By Jim Railton

Cambridge University continued to adopt a low profile yesterday preparing on the Tideway for the Boat Race on April 6 (2.45). The Cambridge president, John Garrett, who has been nursing a cold, was back at the Cambridge headquarters but sensibly having a rest day. Cambridge are fortunate in having last year's seven, Ewan Pearson, as substitute, although he is ineligible for the Boat Race.

Cambridge yesterday afternoon had a relaxed, low-rating cruise on a flooding tide against their hosts, Barclays Bank. Cambridge handled the rough water well and in a two-minute piece, rating no more than 30, took five lengths off Barclays.

Oxford continued their aggressive, hard-working approach with two four-minute races against a very lively Thames Rowing Club eight.

In a second row, Oxford took the inside but were still held for the first minute. The Oxford stroke, Reininger, opened up after three minutes and Oxford had one-and-a-half lengths again at the end.

TODAY'S OUTINGS: Oxford 10 and 4; Cambridge 10 and 3 (from Putney)
OXFORD: G J Cartledge (Hampton & New College), bow; C L Richmond (St Edward's & Christ Church), *5 M Philip (Downing, Cambridge & Worcester), A M S Thomas (Winchester & Pembroke), P M Hare (St Albans & Balliol), *G R D Jones (Sydney University and New College), *W J Lang (Wellingford & Magdalen), F M Reininger (Pennsylvania University and University, stroke, *S R Lesser (Princeton University & Magdalen), cox.
CAMBRIDGE: J S Whitter (Pangbourne & St Catharines), bow; A L Pasternak (Bradford GS & Magdalene), J D Hughes (Bedford Modern & Downing), P M Broughton (Southampton U & Magdalene), S M Peel (King's Chester & Downing), *G A Barnard (Lakefield Sch, and LMBC), *J M Pritchard (St Clement Danes & Robinson) stroke, H L Shaw (Harrogate & LMBC), cox.
(*A Blue)

ATHLETICS

Lewis wins verdict in gripping finish

By Pat Butcher

A grandstand finish by Dave Lewis and Eamonn Martin, co-favourites for last night's Newcastle City Centre five kilometre race, deservedly pushed into the background the news that Steve Jones, holder of the world's best time, will compete in next month's London Marathon.

It took a lot longer than it has taken you to read to here for the judges in Newcastle to decide that Lewis had out-dipped Martin at the issue of an exciting battle to secure victory. But they were both given the same time of 13min 32.7sec, which is a second outside Mike McLeod's winning time for last year's inaugural race, when Lewis was a marginal second.

Steve Harris and Paul Davies-Hale, two of Britain's bright young stars, both of whom have been injured recently, contested the early lead over the six and a half lap rectangular course with Tony Leonard from Salford. Davies-Hale hung on to finish fourth, following Nat Muir, and another Scot, John Robson, was fifth, with Leonard having his best-ever performance in sixth place. But Lewis and Martin, who settled at the back of the pack of 15 which broke away at halfway, steadily worked through for their spring finish.

Lewis said: "I was still feeling the effects of Sunday (18th in the world cross-country championships) and I thought I wasn't going to catch Eamonn".

Jones was one of only two or three of Britain's top distance men missing from last night's line-up. His decision to run in London will surprise a lot of people who thought he was being sensible in initially saying that he would only go back to run the Chicago marathon, where he set his world-best time of 2hr 8min 5sec in October.

He was away from his South Wales home yesterday undergoing some physiology testing in the bio-mechanics laboratory at Salford University, but his decision will be officially announced this morning.

HOCKEY

Thompson ends the struggle

By Sydney Friskin

London will challenge Universities Athletic Union I, the holders, in the final of the British Universities Sports Federation tournament at Southampton today London's last appearance in the final was in Belfast in 1979 when they won the title for the third year in a row.

In yesterday's semi-finals, UAU defeated Scotland 4–1 and London defeated Northern Ireland 1–0, though not before they had been taken to extra time. Thompson scored the winner in the second period from a short corner, having earlier put a shot against a post. He also had a goal disallowed.

This match looked as if it would go on for a month. There were far too many infringements, and interruptions caused by injuries. A great deal of time was also spent in recovering the ball when it was hit out of play. Thompson's goal came as a welcome relief.

UAU had begun the day by beating Northern Ireland 1–0 to finish at the top of Group B with the maximum of six points. In the semi-final they faced fairly stiff opposition from Scotland, who played gallantly all the way and came back strongly early in the second half when Knapp converted a penalty stroke to neutralize the lead which Potter had given the UAU from a similar award in the first period.

Potter missed a penalty stroke midway through the second half but he had earlier restored the UAU's lead from a short corner. Two goals then came from open play, one by Bloxham, the other by Knott.

RESULTS: Group A: Wales 1, London 3, UAU II 1, Scotland 0. Group B: Northern Ireland 0, UAU I 1, Oxford 3, Cambridge 1

Westwood dies

Ian Westwood, an East Grinstead forward injured in a road accident on Sunday in which the club captain, Michael Leman, was killed, died in hospital on Tuesday.

SQUASH RACKETS

National title for Manchester

By Colin McQuillan

Armley, the low-budget Leeds-based team that have proved unexpectedly influential throughout the season, failed by only a single point and a lost protest to impede the ascension of Manchester Northern to the first American Express Premier League.

With the British champion, Geoff Williams, away in Canada testing his abilities at the North American hardball game, the Manchester squad was led by David Pearson the England No 6, and supplemented for the first time at fifth string by the unknown Dutchman Craig van der Wath.

Pearson battled to a crucial 9 – 7 fifth-game victory over Bryan Beeson and van der Wath beat Mick Brook in five games. But the 3 – 2 match result needed to put Manchester beyond the reach of their nearest challengers hung long in the balance as Ian Robinson, the Armley captain, thrashed Adrian Davies in straight games to level the match and then officially queried the status of van der Wath. His second string, John Le Lievre, lost in 106 minutes to Robert Forde, finally collapsing with cramp under the relentless barrage from the Cheshire champion, but Chris McManus beat Teifion Salisbury to make the outcome of the protest crucial to the result.

RESULTS: Armley 2 Manchester Northern 3 Dunnings Mill 2 Redwood Lodge 3 Squash Leicester 2 Tyrella 3 Cannons Club 4 Nottingham 1 League positions: 1 Manchester Northern 66 2 Cannons Club (London) 70 3 Squash Leicester 66, 4 Tyrella (Southampton) 55 5 Edgbaston Priory 48 6 Armley 44 7 Nottingham 39 8 Redwood Lodge (Bristol) 29, 9 Dunnings Mill (East Grinstead) 18

CCPR protest

The Sports Council, have been criticized for telling the Government that an extra £8m will have to be provided for sport if the GLC and metropolitan councils are scrapped. The figure was described as "inadequate" by the Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR).

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TABLE TENNIS

English aim for bronze in Tokyo mould

From a Correspondent
Goteborg

Carl Prean today begins his attempt to repeat an achievement almost everyone says is unrepeatable. In the last world championships two years ago in Tokyo, Prean scored 15 wins out of 19 and took England to their first medal since 1955 – all at the age of 15.

Since then he has had to cope with the psychological blows of being required to play with different colours on each side of his combination bat and having many of his services ruled illegal, as a result of the game's chief rule changes in more than a quarter of a century. It was only recently, by establishing himself as Europe's No 1 junior player, that he began to recover.

If Prean can provide half of the support for Desmond Douglas, England's No 1, that he did last time, England should once again do well, especially as the Birmingham left-hander, who became Commonwealth champion on Saturday, cannot at the age of nearly 30, be certain of many more world championship chances.

England have been given further grounds for optimism by falling on the right side of one of the most lopsided draws the championships have seen. Italy, India and Denmark, three of the weakest teams, all appear in England's section which also contains three other countries, France, Yugoslavia and Japan, which are not unbeatable. Were victories achieved against all of these then the apparently remote possibility of a bronze medal would become a reality for the second time in succession

FISHING

Irresistible call of the river

By Conrad Voss Bark

Trout fishing is now sidling in to a new season. When and how it arrives depends. There are at least six official opening days of the trout season during March, three in April, and one or possibly two in May, depending on the rivers you fish. An unruly system? Very probably, but it derives from long local traditions dating back more than a hundred years to the time when the first close seasons were introduced. Each river board, as they then were, decided on the date when they thought that the brown trout – there were only browns in those days – had recovered sufficiently from spawning to be worth catching.

Not that it was a very logical system but it worked and still does reasonably well, though why the Dove should be a couple of days later than the Dart is anybody's guess, or for that matter why worming takes place on one but not on the other, but, all this aside, one can say that generally speaking the trout season is upon us.

Opening day, certainly down south, always seems to arrive with the daffodils, or if by any chance nature proves difficult, with the hawthorne. The sun has warmed, the downs are blazing with a sudden burst of white blossom, and the call to the river becomes irresistible. The sight of the iron blues or dark olives on the water and the fisherman may look placid enough as he prepares for his first cast but inside he is on fire. He is subject to curious and conflicting emotions, not least a certain feeling of terror or apprehension that he will put the fish down.

Terror? Up to a point. You may remember that when H. T. Sheringham had to make a difficult cast across a weed bed with plenty of drag to a rising two-pounder twenty yards away his legs trembled and his hands shook.

A new fly that might be worth trying this year is a favourite one on the Houghton water, though otherwise little known. It is the Brown Upright, first tied many years ago by Alf Lunn. His son, Nick Lunn, tells me that it takes fish throughout the season, but was designed to be at its best when good hatches of olives and iron blues were around. It is fished in three sizes – 12, 14 and 16 – starting with 12 in May and gradually dropping to 16.

The hackles are dark blue dun mixed with red cock, the tail four fibres of dark blue dun, the body is made up of stripped dark peacock herl at the tail, with dark brownish-black fur for the thorax.

RACING: CORBIERE'S JOCKEY CAN LAND WHITBREAD TROPHY CHASE ON OPENING DAY OF NATIONAL MEETING

Burnt Oak to blaze Aintree trail

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

Peter Scudamore whose father, Michael, won the Grand National on Oxo in 1959, has two distinctly enviable rides over the big Aintree fences this week. On Saturday he will be on Corbiere, already the winner of the National, in the big race itself as a late replacement for the injured Ben de Haan. Today he will be on BURNT OAK, who is my nap to win the Whitbread Trophy Chase.

Twelve months ago it was Burnt Oak who led the National field a merry gallop for more than a circuit before running out of steam. But with only two and threequarter miles instead of four and a half to cover this time he should prove difficult to catch, especially if he jumps with his customary gay abandon.

When last seen Burnt Oak ran extremely well in the Grand Military Gold Cup at Sandown to finish second to Special Cargo, beaten only a neck. That was his first race for more than three months and I know that the feeling abides at Condicote, near Stow-on-the Wold, where he is trained by David Nicholson, that it will have brought him to concert pitch at precisely the right time.

Fortina's Express, who was runner-up to Earl's Brig at Haydock earlier this month, is the obvious danger, especially as so many of the runners, all those below Poyntz Pass, are out of the handicap.

Obviously, jumping around Liverpool can make a mockery of those ratings, but I do believe that Burnt Oak, who is a spring-heeled horse if ever I saw one, has the wherewithall to cope with these fences and, perhaps, lead from start to finish.

Earl's Brig, who has finished third in the Cheltenham Gold Cup since beating Fortina's Express at Haydock, also runs today in the Whitbread Gold Label Cup Chase which has attracted not only Royal Bond, the winner of the corresponding race 12 months ago, but also three of the other runners in this year's Cheltenham Gold Cup, Half Free, who finished fifth, Combs Ditch (seventh) and Wayward Lad (eighth).



Burnt Oak, and Peter Scudamore, fancied for the Whitbread Trophy Chase

HALF FREE blatantly failed to last three and a quarter miles at Cheltenham. I still feel that a furlong shorter around a course as tight as the Sefton track, could prove within his range, especially now that Fred Winter's horses, overall, are doing so well. At Cheltenham Half Free was still in the lead jumping the second-last fence and a repitition of that form will surely see him go close.

As Whitbread Ltd has sponsored the entire programme at Liverpool today, to the tune of £42,000, there could be no more appropriate winner of the Whitbread Best Scotch Novices' Hurdle than Ten Of Spades, who is owned by Bill Whitbread, the firm's former chairman and the man generally accredited as being responsible for lighting the flame of race sponsorship in this country.

Well as I expect Ten Of Sapdes to go, I find it hard to envisage him giving 4lb to KESSLIN, who was runner-up to Harry Hastings in the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices' Hurdle at Cheltenham. Yesterday Nicky Vigors, who trains Kesslin, described his horse as being 'spot on'. Discussing Kesslin's chance, Vigors said: "It was a race against time to even get him to Cheltenham: if anything, I think that he is better now. He certainly schooled very well yesterday."

Graham Bradley can begin the meeting on a morale-boosting note by winning the Whitbread Best Mild Novices' Chase, on RHYME 'N REASON. At Ascot in February Rhyme 'N Reason was runner-up to Drumadoawey in the Reynoldstown Chase, beaten three lengths. Considering the way that Drumadowney then ran in the Gold Cup itself, it is only fair to assume that Rhyme 'N Reason would have gone very close in the Sun Alliance Chase at Cheltenham had he not completely misjudged the seventh fence and unshifted his rider.

INDAMELODY (3.10) and BEAU RANGER (4.50), who performed creditably at Cheltenham by finishing fourth and fifth, respectively, in the Coral Golden Hurdle final and the Mildmay Of Flete Challenge Trophy, are my ideas of the likely winners of the Whitbread Pale Ale Handicap Hurdle and the Chesters Handicap Chase.

At Taunton DART OVER looks the one to be on for the Colonel and Mrs C. T. Mitford Slade Challenge Trophy following those good runs behind Spartan Missile at Stratford and Cheekio Ora at Ludlow.

Kilkilowen to boost Irish hopes

From our Irish Correspondent

Greasepaint's Grand National chance will be enhanced if Kilkilowen manages at long last to reproduce his Irish form away from Home. He carries top weight in the Whithread Trophy Chase at Aintree this afternoon and beat Greasepaint in a two mile handicap at Naas at the beginning of the month.

Apart from the Grand National, Irish runners will be relatively scarce this week, but two to bear in mind for their respective handicap engagements are Bit of the Action and Gangabal.

The former, who comes from the Drumlargan stable, is owned by J. P. McManus the leading Irish professional gambler. He himself had little luck at Cheltenham but Bit of the Action put himself on line for the handicap chase named after Red Rum when winning at Naas by eight lengths.

Because of the lively ground Paddy Mullins withdrew Ararum but he still sends over another novice hurdler of considerable reputation, Gangabal for the White Satin Amateur Hurdle on Grand National Day. Gangabal was having his first start of the year, and looking very much in need of the run when coming from a long way behind to win a St. Patrick's Day Handicap at Limerick in decisive fashion. He will be ridden at Aintree by his owner, Mr Willie Mullins.

● John Francome replaces Robert Earnshaw on Wayward Lad in the Whitbread Gold Label Cup Chase at Liverpool today. The change was made at the request of Wayward Lad's owners after Earnshaw had finished eighth in the Cheltenham Gold Cup on the ten-year old.

● Brian Connorton, who rode 600 winners in 26 years as a jockey, before retiring in 1975, is to succeed Johnny Gilbert as senior instructor at the British Racing School, Newmarket.

Bradley booked to ride Hallo Dandy

By Michael Seely

Graham Bradley has been booked to ride Hallo Dandy in Saturday's Grand National at Aintree. "Bradley, Richard Linley and Geordie Dun all rang up asking for the mount last night", said Gordon Richards' his trainer, yesterday, "the owner, Richard Shaw, and I have talked it over and opted for Graham".

Bradley, aged 24, first hit the headlines when winning the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup on Bregawn in 1982 and the Cheltenham Gold Cup on the same horse, the following March. This season he has captured the Welsh Grand National on Righthand Man and also ridden Monica Dickinson's resolute stayer into second place behind Forgive 'N' Forget in the Gold Cup earlier this month.

Richards, the man who launched the careers of Ron Barry and John O'Neill, is a fine judge of a jockey. "Bradles rides nice and deep and is a good horseman", he said.

"Hallo Dandy will not travel down to Aintree until the morning of the race," Richards said, "it's only a two-hour drive down the M6 and M62. It takes much less out of a horse if he doesn't have to spend the night away from his stable. I'll see Bradley at the races tomorrow and I might get him up here on Friday to get a feel of the horse".

Bradley, who has ridden for Richards twice, heard the news at Huntingdon. "I'm absolutely delighted – I'm thrilled to bits. On good ground he'll take all the beating. I watched him race in the North many times, and I'll be having a good look at video recordings tonight. And, of course, I'll be asking Neale Doughry for his advice".

Yesterday a keen north was whipping across the resilient old Aintree turf. "We've had no rain at all," said a course spokesman. The drying condition will favour Greasepaint and West Tip as well as Hallo Dandy, but will be against Corbiere and Lucky Vane.

National fever is making the punters take ridiculously short prices about the fancies horses. Ladbroke now have Greasepaint and West Tip as their joint favourites at 6-1 and offer 8-1 against Corbiere. William Hills have the same three horses bracketed together at 7-1. "What's going to save the poor old bookies", bewailed Mike Cowtan, Hill's PRO.

Records show that the National is traditionally a punter's race, Ben Nevis's 40-1 victory in 1980 being the only surprise result in the past 13 years. But when the betting starts at Liverpool on Saturday, the course operators will have no antepost liabilities and the prices against the market leaders are bound to ease.

Fulke Walwyn, successful as a jockey on Reynoldstown in 1936 and as a trainer in 1964 with Team Spirit, marginally favours the Aintree veterans against West Tip. "West Tip looks thrown and certainly the fences are easier nowadays. But I've got to favour those with previous experience. They've all shown that they haven't deteriorated and are in good form".

Double for Birch

Mark Birch, one of the leading jockeys at Catterick Bridge, landed a 67-1 double there yesterday with Lady Grim and Carneades.

Lady Grim, a 16-1 chance, took the Forcett Park Selling Stakes despite Birch having to put up 2lb overweight. It was the Melton Mowbray trainer, Walter Wharton's second winner this year. Kevin Hodgson has influenza and Birch stepped in for a lucky chance ride on Carneades in the Yarm Handicap. Carneades, who was always in touch, led a furlong out to beat Secret Finale by one and a half lengths.

The winner is managed by the Timeform Social Club Owner's group which has 40 members.

LIVERPOOL BBC

[Televised: 2.35, 3.10 (BBC 2) 3.45, 4.20]

GOING: Good

2.0 WHITBREAD BEST SCOTCH NOVICE HURDLE (£4,753: 2m) (18 runners)

101	3110	TEN OF SPADES (D)	(W Whitbread) S Mellor 5-11-4 ..... M Perrett
102	212010	MAGANYOS (B) (D)	(D Samuel) N Henderson 5-11-3 ..... S Smith Eccles
103	40-1214	AMBER RAMBLER	(D) (D Silverton) H Wharton 6-11-0 ..... P Tuck
104	212200	AVERON (R Cleland)	C Wildman 5-11-0 ..... R Durnwoody
105	214001	CHAMPAGNE BRIGADE	(D) (D Maguire) T Kinane (Ire) 6-11-0 ..... T Kinane
106	0021-pp	COUNT NIDAS	(A Watson) A Watson 5-11-0 ..... D Chapman
107	220-220	DORONICUM	(BF) (Ewart Engineering) G Richards 6-11-0 ..... D Coakley
108	000	FRENCH UNION	(Mrs C Smith) D Nicholson 7-11-0 ..... P Scudamore
109	312220	GALA'S IMAGE	(D) (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) Mrs M Pitman 5-11-0 ..... R Linley
112	012	KESSLIN	(I Jewell) N Vigors 5-11-0 ..... J White
113	403011	KEYCORN	(D) (B) (H Kay) J W Blundell 5-11-0 ..... D Dutton
114	00p-012	MI DAD	(D) (BF) (Placard Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 8-11-0 ..... M Pitman
115	p011u	POLAR STAR	(D) (BF) (R Kerslake) M Pipe 6-11-0 ..... P Leach
116	41410	RHOECUS	(D) (P Wetzel) Mrs M Dickinson 6-11-0 ..... G Bradley
117	111u0	SAILOR'S DANCE	(D) (M Ritzenberg) F Winter 5-11-0 ..... J Duggan
119	001	TOGG	(D) (Mrs M Saville-Deane) Mrs C Poolethwaite 7-11-0 ..... P A Charlton
121	00	SASSANOCO	(A Sandemann) D Oughton 4-10-5 ..... P Double
123	2b	THE CLOWN	(G Greenwood) M Naughton 4-10-5 ..... D Browne

1984: Browne's Gazette 5-11-11 Mr D Browne (10-11 fav) M Dickinson 14 ran.

3 Kesslin, 9-2 Ten Of Spades, 6 Maganyos, 8 Mi Dad, Champagne Brigade, 10 Sailor's Dance, 12 Togg, Gala's Image, 14 Rhoecus, 16 others.

FORM: KESSLIN (11-8) 4l 2nd of 30 to Harry Hastings (11-8) at Cheltenham (2m hdle, £22,080, good, March 12), with GALA'S IMAGE (11-8), RHOECUS (11-8), SAILOR'S DANCE (11-8), and MAGANYOS (11-3) all out of the first 9. TEN OF SPADES (11-7) 20l 5th of 27 to Asir (11-7) at Cheltenham (2m 4l hdle, £23,490, good, March 13), previously (11-8) beat El Gitano (11-8) 10l at Ascot (2m hdle, £3,208, good, Feb 6, 13 ran), when Sailor's Dance (11-11) every chance when unseating last. CHAMPAGNE BRIGADE (12-0) beat Herns Hotel (11-11) 2½l at Leopardstown (2m hdle, £2,070, good, March 16, 14 ran). KEYCORN (10-4) beat Tachyros (11-2) ½l at Market Rasen (2m 4l, h'cap hdle, £1,926, good to soft, March 8, 12 ran). MI DAD (11-8) 2 ½l 2nd of 15 to Mollin (11-8) at Wolverhampton (2m 4l hdle, £1,082, soft, March 18). POLAR STAR, every chance when swerved and unseated last time, previously (11-9) beat Buntar (11-4) 1 ½l at Lingfield (2m hdle, £588, soft, Feb 28, 14 ran). TOGG (11-3) beat Mount Bolus (11-10) ½l at Haydock (2m hdle, £1,106, good to soft, March 1, 18 ran). Selection: KESSLIN.

Liverpool selections

By Mandarin

2.0 Kesslin. 2.35 Half Free. 3.10 Indamelody. 3.45 BURNT OAK (nap). 4.20 Rhyme 'N Reason. 4.50 Beau Ranger.

By Michael Seely

2.0 Kesslin. 2.35 Half Free. 3.10 DODGY FUTURE (nap).

2.35 WHITBREAD GOLD LABEL CUP CHASE (£7,180: 3m 1f) (6)

202	10/1220	COMBS DITCH	(D) (BF) (B) R Tory) D Elsworth 9-11-5 ..... C Brown
203	221112	EARLS BRIG	(W Hamilton) W Hamilton 10-11-5 ..... P Tuck
204	111120	HALF FREE	(Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) F Winter 9-11-5 ..... R Linley
205	143120	ROYAL BOND	(C) (Mrs G Mackinson) A Moore (Ire) 12-11-5 ..... T J Taaffe
206	p01140	TOM'S LITTLE AL	(B) (T Staddon) W R Williams 9-11-5 ..... P Scudamore
207	112320	WAYWARD LAD	(Mrs S Thewlis) Mrs M Dickinson 10-11-5 ..... J Francome

1984: Royal Bond 11-11-5 T Taaffe (11-2) A Moore (Ire) 4 ran.

15-8 Earl's Brig, 5-2 Half Free, 7-2 Combs Ditch, 11-2 Wayward Lad, 9 Royal Bond.

FORM: EARLS BRIG (12-0) 4l 3rd of 15 to Forgive 'N Forget (12-0) at Cheltenham (3m 2l ch, £52,560, good, March 14), with HALF FREE (12-0) 7l away 5th, COMBS DITCH (12-0) 3l away 7th and WAYWARD LAD (12-0) 8th. COMBS DITCH earlier, 1st (1-10) short head 2nd of 3 to Burntagh Hill Lad (11-10) at Kempton (3m ch, £26,468, good to soft, Dec 28) with WAYWARD LAD (11-10) a bad 3rd. ROYAL BOND in need of run when tailing at Leopardstown earlier this month, won this race 1984 when (11-5) beat Drumlargan (11-5) 9 ½l (£6,920, good March 30, 4 ran). TOMS LITTLE AL (11-8) 2l ½l 6th of 8 to Straight Accord (11-8) at Cheltenham (2m 4l ch, £10,924, good March 14). Selection: COMBS DITCH

3.10 WHITBREAD PALE ALE HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,688: 2m 4l 110yd) (21)

302	133030	VIVAQUE	(Mrs M Harman) D Elsworth 6-11-8 ..... C Brown
303	331420	ALLTEN GLAZED	(Exors late J Widdall) M Naughton 8-10-13 ..... G Bradley
305	110021	EBORACUM	(Mrs A Harker) B Wildman 7-10-11 (5 ex) ..... Mr G Harker 4
307	420011	GOING BROKE	(J O'Neill) D Murray Smith 5-10-10 (10 ex) ..... A Webber
308	03-p000	MOSSMORRAN	(D Armstrong) A Scott 6-10-9 ..... P A Charlton
309	110110	CHRYSAOR	(P Fahey) S Christian 7-10-8 ..... K Mooney
310	b24000	MR DENETOP	(F Musgrave) F Musgrave 7-10-7 ..... Mr P J Dun
311	3-000p0	LAWNSWOOD MISS	(A Hill) D Nicholson 7-10-6 ..... P Scudamore
312	101320	GEMBRIDGE JUPITER	(A Carver) C Thistlethwaite 7-10-3 ..... J Southern
314	0/12104	INDAMELODY	(Mrs M Thorne) N Henderson 7-10-2 ..... S Smith Eccles
317	112101	THE MAN HIMSELF	(F Bissaker) G Richards 5-10-1 (5 ex) ..... D Coakley 4
318	1-62204	AFZAL	(C) (K Fischer) R Rohlinshead 5-10-0 ..... J J O'Neill
320	0p0010	ROAD TO MANDALAY	(B) (Dataserv Ltd) D Barons 8-10-0 (5 ex) ..... H Davies
321	00-0401	DODGY FUTURE	(D Lowe) S Mellor 5-10-0 (5 ex) ..... M Perrett
322	222341	BURANNPOUR	(E Weinstein) A Jarvis 5-10-0 (5 ex) ..... T Jarvis
323	/40400	GEANYS GOLD ROLLED	(D Pike) Denys Smith 8-10-0 ..... C Grant
324	000-112	DUNCOMBE PRINCE	(J Burgess) J Jefferson 6-10-0 ..... P Tuck
325	000401	MITILINI	(J Taylor) B Preece 5-10-0 (5 ex) ..... R Strange
326	30-2004	MOLLINGTON	(D Taylor) J Webber 5-10-0 ..... A Webb
328	000332	OUT 'N DIRTY	(Miss M Rowntree) P Bowden 5-10-0 ..... R Linley
330	112042	TACHYROS	(B) (B Brooks) L Lightbrown 5-10-0 ..... M Brennan

1984: Street Angel 8-11-0 A Mullins (8-1) P Mullins (Ire) 13 ran.

5 Going Broke, 6 Afzal, 7 Indamelody, 8 Eboracum, Dodgy Future, 10 Gembridge Jupiter.

FORM: VIVAQUE (11-10) about 11 7½l 7th of 22 to Rose Ravine (11-5) at Cheltenham (3m 1f hdle, £21,320, good, March 12), with MOSSMORRAN (11-10) out of first 9. DODGY FUTURE (10-12) beat Light Song (10-7) 4l at Towcester (2m h'cap hdle, £2,012, good to soft, March 21, 20 ran), earlier about 12l 8th of 27 to Floyd (10-5) at Cheltenham (2m h'cap hdle, £3,203, good March 14), with ALLTEN GLAZED (11-0) out of first 9. ALLTEN GLAZED, previously (11-5) 20l 2nd of 7 to Browne's Gazette (12-1) at Kelso (2m hdle, £2,001, soft, Feb 26). EBORACUM (11-7) beat DUNCOMBE PRINCE (10-10) 1 ½l at Ayr (2m 6f h'cap hdle, £3,817, good, March 9, 9 ran), with GEARY'S COLD ROLLED (10-12) 8l away 4th. GOING BROKE (10-0) beat Aonoch (11-13) 2½l at Lingfield (2m 4l h'cap hdle, £8,811, soft, March 16, 14 ran). INDAMELODY (10-5) about 8l 4th of 30 to Van Trappe (10-5) at Cheltenham (3m 1f h'cap hdle, £14,342, good, March 13), with GEMBRIDGE JUPITER (10-1) neck away 5th, with CHRYSAOR (10-5) and ROAD TO MANDALAY (10-4) out of first 9. THE MAN HIMSELF (11-11) beat Burgundy (10-13) 30l at Ayr (2m 4f h'cap hdle, £1,196, good, March 11, 6 ran). Selection: ALLTEN GLAZED.

3.45 WHITBREAD TROPHY HANDICAP CHASE (£10,482: 3m 6f) (21)

401	220114	KILKILOWEN	(Exors late Mrs S Collen) J Dreaper (Ire) 9-12-0 ..... K Morgan
402	111422	FORTINA'S EXPRESS	(P Piller) W A Stephenson 11-11-3 ..... R Lamb
403	2p-0022	BURNT OAK	(Brig C Harvey) D Nicholson 9-10-5 ..... P Scudamore
404	0100-04	RICHARDSTOWN	(A Dickinson) Mrs M Dickinson 9-10-5 ..... R Earnshaw
405	0-02200	ST ALEZAN	(Lord Coventry) M Tate 8-10-4 ..... S Smith Eccles
407	000003	DALTMORE	(D) (N Coburn) N Meade (Ire) 7-10-4 ..... P Leach
409	p00p/00	BEACON TIME	(CD) (F Markland) D McCain 11-10-1 ..... K Doolan 4
410	1/0242-	KING SPRUCE	(Dr R Carrier) R Champion 11-10-0 ..... Mrs J Carrier
411	31224/	POYNTZ PASS	(T Harty) R Fisher 10-10-0 ..... M Meagher 4
412	121132	SMITH'S MAN	(Smith Mansfield) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-0 ..... M Perrett
413	2034p4	KNOCK HILL	(P Thompson) J Webber 9-10-0 ..... A Webber
414	p22200	ROMANY CONT	(Mrs A Grantham) W R Williams 13-10-0 ..... Mr T Grantham 7
417	114021	BOOK OF KELLS	(R Beeson) J Blundell 10-10-0 (3 ex) ..... D Dutton
418	1-11113	MASTER TREGEL	(T Bates) J Spearing 10-10-0 ..... S Richardson
423	0f-p0bp	EGGLING	(C Carner) R Champion 12-10-0 ..... G McCourt
424	2/1p22	RUN TO ME	(D) (N R Mitchell) N Mitchell 10-10-0 (3 ex) ..... R Durnwoody
425	10p020	MARSHAL NIGHT	(R Woodhouse) R Woodhouse 10-10-0 ..... S Keightley
426	pl-34p0	GALLEON BEACH	(E Barber) J Edwards 9-10-0 ..... P Barton
427	044003	GREENWAYS	(D) (A Moore) A Jarvis 10-10-0 ..... -
428	033221	ABO ACE	(G Hubbard) R Champion 7-10-0 (3 ex) ..... J Duggan 4
429	0422p4	SHAMROCK BRIDGE	(M Clarke) R Francis 9-10-0 ..... R Crank

1984: Fabulous 11-10-0 A Stringer (33-1) J S Wilson 23 ran.

6 Fortina's Express, 13-2 Kilkilowen, 8 Smith's Man, Burnt Oak, 10 Daltmore, 12 Richardstown, 14 Poyntz Pass, Run To Me, 16 Beacon Time, 20 Book Of Kells, King Spruce.

FORM: KILKILOWEN, (11-8) 4½l 4th to Straight Accord (11-8) at Cheltenham (2m 4f ch, good), earlier (12-0) a Si Punchestown runner-up to Bobsline (12-0) (2m 4f ch, £9,003, heavy, Dec 15, 9 ran) FORTINA'S EXPRESS (10-3) 10l 2nd to Earls Brig (10-5) at Haydock (3m ch, £11,440, good to soft, Mar 2, 9 ran). BURNT OAK (12-0) 1½l 2nd to Special Cargo (12-7) at Sandown (3m ch, £2,538, good, March 8, 12 ran). DALTMORE (10-4) 9½l 4th to Excursion (10-5) at Down Royal (3m ch, £2,070, good to soft, March 18, 11 ran). KING SPRUCE (11-8) beaten in match by Wayward Lad (12-0) (Feb 25, 1984), earlier (11-7) 5l 2nd to Tom's Little Al (11-2) at Cheltenham (2m 4l ch, £4,542, good to soft, Jan 2 1984, 7 ran). SMITH'S MAN (10-10) beaten 6l by Fethard Friend (11-7) at Wolverhampton (3m 4f ch, £1,780, good, Mar 15, 7 ran). BOOK OF KELLS (10-3) beat Stand Back (10-6) 8l at Doncaster. POYNTZ PASS (11-3) in lead when falling 3 out (2m 4f ch, £2,654, firm, March 9, 6 ran). Selection: KING'S SPRUCE.

4.20 WHITBREAD BEST MILD NOVICE CHASE (£4,155: 3m 1f) (12)

501	10-2132	ARCTIC BEAU	(BF) (P Vane) J Thorne 7-11-6 ..... P Scudamore
503	213303	GOOD TRADE	(A Lester) R Perkins 10-11-5 ..... Dai Williams
504	pf00pf	AUCHENCRUIVE	(Mrs S Saville) A Watson 10-11-3 ..... S Curran
505	221112	BIG BROWN BEAR	(G Barlow) G Barlow 8-11-3 ..... P Barton
506	1001u2	CHARLES DUKE	(J Morrison) G Richards 8-11-3 ..... D Coakley
507	3-121lu	COOL MAGIC	(F Jestin) F Jestin 7-11-3 ..... Mr L Hutson
508	103D-	GALESBURG	(Mrs J O'Brien) Mrs M Dickinson 6-11-3 ..... D Browne
512	1-03111	NEWLIFE CONNECTION	(B McMillan) W A Stephenson 6-11-3 ..... R Lamb
513	004ff-p	PORTABOUGY	(D Cowgill) M Tate 10-11-3 ..... M Bastard
514	11-112u	RHYME N' REASON	(D) (Miss J Reed) D Murray Smith 6-11-3 ..... G Bradley
515	021-0pf	WILLIE'S GIG	(B) (B Brooks) O Brennan 7-11-3 ..... M Brennan
516	211033	ZAMANDRA	(L Wild) J Fitzgerald 10-10-12 ..... M Dwyer

1984: Baron Blakeney 7-11-6 Mr O Sherwood (14-1) M Pipe 8 ran.

13-8 Rhyme N' Reason, 9-4 Newlife Connection, 11-2 Zamandra, 10 Big Brown Bear.

FORM: ARTIC BEAU (12-2), a 30 L runner-up to Drumadowney (11-11) at Cheltenham (3m ch, £3,101, soft, Nov 9, 11 ran). BIG BROWN BEAR (12-0), came back from a lay-off to finish 25 L 2nd to Parish Rigged (11-0) at Worcester (2m 4l ch, £1,041, good to soft, March 20, 17 ran). NEWLIFE CONNECTION (12-2), completed a hat-trick when beating Sharagaun (11-6) 10 L at Doncaster (2m ch, £1,372, firm, March 9, 7 ran). RHYME 'N REASON (11-4), jumped indifferently from the outset and fell at the 7th in Antarctic Bay's (11-4) Sun Alliance, in which ZAMANDRA (10-13) finished a 7 L 3rd, but previously (11-6) ran Drumadowney (11-6) to 3 L at Ascot (3m ch, £10,360, good, Feb 8, 8 ran). Selection: RHYME 'N REASON.

4.50 CHESTERS HANDICAP CHASE (£3,941: 2m 4f) (8)

601	111110	BEAU RANGER	(D) (White Bros) J Thorne 7-11-10 ..... J Hurst 7
602	2-31134	DIRECT LINE	(D) (B Otter) J Fitzgerald 11-11-6 ..... R O'Leary
603	110009	GAMBLING PRINCE	(CD) (Mrs G Jones) Mrs G Jones 12-10-13 ..... J Burke
604	13210f	BRAVE GEORGE	(D) (P Cowell) P Haynes 8-10-7 ..... G Bradley
606	111034	BROKEN SPEECH	(D) (Brig F Noble) N Crump 9-10-5 ..... C Hawkins
607	u114pf	KING OR COUNTRY	(CD) (Maincrest Ltd) D Barons 14-10-4 ..... H Davies
608	33p222	STAND BACK	(D) (W Crawford) W A Stephenson 8-10-0 ..... Mr P Dun
610	4f1412	FIRE DRILL	(P Norman) K Bishop 10-10-0 ..... A Jones 4

1984: Gambling Prince 11-10-0 J Burke (20-1) Mrs G Jones 12 ran.

2 Direct Line, 3 Beau Ranger, 7-2 Brave George, 5 Broken Speech, 7 King Or Country,

Catterick Bridge results

GOING: good to soft

2.15 (7f) 1, O I OYSTON (J C Carroll, 2-1 fav); 2, Rapid Action (A Dicks, 7-2); 3, Spigot Shaft (Wendy Jones, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 7 Murillo (5th), 10 Late Hour, 12 Shiela Crockett (6th). Willie Gan, 14 Debayo (4th), 16 Into The Wind, 33 Ali's Comet. 10 ran. NR: Trade High, hd, 4l, 4l, ¾l, 1½l, J Berry at Cockerham. TOTE: £2.70; £1.10, £1.10. £2.00. DF: £3.90. CSF: £8.86. TRICAST: £30.25. Trade High was 7-1 at withdrawal, deduction 10p in the £.

2.45 (5f) 1, DUSLIN LAD (S Coogan, 2-1 fav); 2, Daring Deco (T Rogers, 5-2); 3, Dancing Tom (C Coates, 7-1). ALS ORAN: 5 Blessed Aisle (5th), 7 Knight Hunter, 8 Ernie's Brother (4th), Jessie Sills (3rd), 33 Bimini Ridge, Valdarno. 9 ran. Sh, ½l, 2l, 7l, 1l. M Britain at Warthill. TOTE: £2.90; £1.20, £1.30, £4.20. DF: £4.40. CSF: £9.40.

3.15 (5f) 1, GOOD SOLUTION (S Webster, 6-1); 2, Eastbrook (M Birch, 3-1 fav); 3, Tried Treble (T Ives, 11-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Shanouska (4th), 8 Lady Cara, Wilma Rudolph (6th), 9 Gunner Royal, 10 Tang Dancer, 12 Lord Sinclair, Uptown Girl, 16 Montagu Miss, 20 Balkan (5th). NR: Son Of Raja. 12 ran. hd, Sl, 3l, 2½l, 1½l. T Barron at Maunby. TOTE: £5.30; £1.20, £1.60, £3.60. DF: £16.90. CSF: £24.53. TRICAST: £187.06.

3.45 (7f) 1, LADY GRIM (M Birch, 16-1); 2, Ron Easy (M Hills, 5-2 fav); 3, Whoknowsbetwinker (T Rogers, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Kittaley (4th), 15-2 Mickey Finn, 10 Gray Coral, Rose d'Anjou, 12 Brampton Imperial (6th), 16 Ronans Pearl, Tufted Locks, 20 Run For Fred (5th), 25 Ribble Star, 33 Dadeka Dawes, Emmazanda. NR: Henry's Place, Sudden Light. 14 ran. 2½l, ¾l, Sl, ¾l, 3l. W Wharton at Melton Mowbray. TOTE: £24.20; £5.30, £2.00, £1.80. DF: £75.90. CSF: £58.33. No bid.

4.15 (1m 7f) 1, CARNEADES (M Birch, 3-1 fav); 2, Secret Finale (D Oldham, 10-1); 3, Red Duster (S Webster, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Hail Asleep (5th), 5 Bondice, 12 Vel Climber, 7 Tinoco (4th), 14 Bohemond, 16 Fascadale, Surprise Attack, 20 Hydrangea, Mossy Beat (6th), Supper's Ready, 25 Dusty Farlow, 33 Patchik. 15 ran. 1½l, 2l, 3l, 7½l, 8l. M J Easterby at Gt Habton. TOTE: £4.10; £2.20, £2.20, £2.70. DF: £18.90. CSF: £33.41. TRICAST: £189.27.

4.45 (5f) 1, LADY CHANTRY (S Webster, 9-4 fav); 2, Farida Fair (N Connerton, 12-1); 3, Sequestrator (T Ives, 5-2). ALSO RAN: 3 Zabalinia, 5 Cooper Racing Nell (5th), 15-2 Windstreaker, 8 Galine, 12 Running Rainbow (4th), 25 Sandy Furniss (6th). 8 ran. ½l, nk, 2l, 1l. nk. T Barron at Maunby. TOTE: £2.70; £1.20, £2.60, £1.20. DF: £43.20. CSF: £32.76.

5.15 (1m 4f) 1, NATIONAL DRESS (T Ives, 6-11); 2, Verbasing (J Lowe, 8-1); 3, Dona Perfecta (S Whitworth, 8-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 6-4 fav Classic Profile (5th), 16 Lucille Astik (4th), 20 Brandon Grey, 50 Diaphantine (6th). 7 ran. 7l, 15l, 1l, 5l, 5l, F Williams at Newmarket. TOTE: £4.60; £2.80, £1.90. DF: £26.30. CSF: 46.65. PLACEPOT: £5.95.

TAUNTON

GOING: heavy

2.15 PITMINSTER NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £693: 2m 1f) (17 runners)

3	104	MAJOR MARK	(CD) W G M Turner 4-11-7 ..... A Sharpe
5	3041	ASMID J Old 5-11-3	..... P Murphy
6	4	EVEN BANKER O Sherwood 6-11-3	..... C Cox 7
9	2303	IMPERIAL CHAMPAGNE J Thorne 5-11-3	..... P Dever
10	00	IT'S FOR YOU W Reed 5-11-3	..... Philip Hobbs
11	fptp	JIMMY FLINT R Dunn 9-11-3	..... Mr N Dunn 4
14	p00-	PURPLE BLAZE J Bradley 7-11-3	..... G Davies
16	p0	TOPHATTER R Hodges 5-11-3	..... C Gray
17	p0-03	VIVRE POUR VIVRE J Baker 5-11-3	..... -
19	1000	CARADO (B) M Pipe 4-11-2	..... P Nicholls
23		INDIAN CASH P Duggins 11-10-12	..... N Coleman 4
25	0-00	ROSEZEL (B) Mrs E Kennard 5-10-12	..... S McNeill

هكذا من الاصل

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Experienced Senior Secretary for 2 Managers of large int co. Use your French occasionally for telephone liaison and correspondence. WP experience essential as is fast typing, shorthand and a technical background. Age: 25-35. £9,000 + benefits.

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CITY 377 8600

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West End Office

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to
European Advertising Manager of The New York Times, London EC4

c£8,500

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The Minority Party Secretariat provides day-to-day secretarial, administrative and policy assistance to Members, committee chairs, vice-chairs and back benchers of the Conservative Opposition.

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An efficient organiser is sought to arrange the ILEA Opposition's nominations for governors of educational establishments, representation on Head Teacher Appointment Panels and Member attendance at meetings.

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PUBLISHERS of many of this country's best known newspaper and magazine titles urgently seek a secretary to work in their Chief Executive's office. Organising meetings, boardroom lunches, cinema, table plans, etc) and Directors where shown, will involve you in lots of liaison, dealing with people in person and on the telephone. You should be smart, assured and adaptable with good skills (100/60), confident spelling and grammar and a cheery disposition. Age 20+. Salary £7,500. Please telephone 01-493 5787. Gordon Yates Consultancy.

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". . . Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving". – Colossians 4: 2.

BIRTHS

CASSIDY – On March 26, at the Hong Kong Maternity Hospital, to Rosamond and Dennis, a son, Hugo.

COWEN. On March 20th to Elizabeth (nee Hindmarsh) and John, a daughter, Olivia Jane.

DUFFUS. On March 26th at the Rosie Maternity Hospital, Cambridge, to Beryl (nee Hogarth) and Philip – a daughter (Philippa), sister to Julie.

FINNEAS – On 16th March, to Fiona (nee Gibson) and Per, a son, Manfred Eric, brother of Bryony.

IRISH. On March 22nd to Liz and Piers, a son, Thomas James.

LAWRENCE. – On March 27 at Masterton, New Zealand, to Charlotte (nee Ackroyd-Gray) and Tim Lawrence, a son, Samuel Gwynne.

MANN – on March 26th at the North Devon District Hospital to Selina (nee Hildyard) and Richard a son Edgar.

PARKIN – On 21st March, to Judy (nee Witherington) and Tim, a daughter, Joanna Katherine.

POWER. – On March 24th at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford to Ruth (nee Towler) and Richard, a daughter, Lucy.

VANNECK. – On 12th March, 1985, to Arabella and Joshua – a son (Gerard Charles Alastair).

WHITE. – On 14th March, 1985 to Fiona (nee MacLean) and Alistair – a daughter Siobhan Dianal, a sister for Riba

WILLIAMS – On March 13, to Susan Elizabeth (nee Cotton) and Merlion, a son, Jamie Alexander.

WOOD. – On March 21 to Barbara (nee Leathwood) and Andrew – a son (Owen Andrew Hilary), a brother for Patrick.

BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Tony Morrell. 40 today. Lots of love Valerie and children.

DEATHS

BIGHAM – On March 24 1985, Edith widow of the Hon Sir Trevor Bigham Requiem mass to be announced later.

BIRKS. – On 25th March, 1985, after a long illness, Major General Horace Leslie, CB, DSO. Much loved husband of the late Gladys, father of Tony, grandfather of Andrew and Nigel. Funeral service at St Andrew's Church, Colyton, Devon, on Tuesday, 2nd April, at 11.30 am. No flowers please. Donations if wished to the RTR Benevolent Fund, Bovington Camp, Wareham, Dorset

BOUCKLEY – On March 27th, peacefully in his sleep, Kenneth George, dearly loved husband of Kay and father of John and Sally. Funeral service at St Peter's Parish Church, Walton-on-Thames, on Wednesday, 3rd April at 2.15pm, followed by cremation at Randalls Park (by family only). Family flowers but donations if desired to Linear Accelerator Appeal Fund, Westminster Hospital, London.

BRAZENDALE – Donald Grant, on March 24th, suddenly at Thackley Football Club. Beloved husband of Barbara, father of David, Melvyn, Chris, Glyn, daughter-in-law Tracy and future son-in-law Tony, brother at Earle and Roy. Funeral at Nab Wood Crematorium, Shipley, on 29th March at 11.30am. Family flowers only preferred, donations if desired to British Heart Foundation. 92a, Albion Street, Leeds.

CATHER – On 25th March, 1985, in his 91st year, Dermot Patrick Cather, Capt RN. Retired of Battle, E. Sussex. Funeral service at Battle Parish Church, at 11.30am, Thursday, 4th April, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only.

DE SANCHA, THOMAS. – On March 22nd at St Stephens Hospital after a mercifully brief illness. Thomas, dearly loved father to Mitchell and Antonia and grandfather to Nathaniel, Thomas and Edward. A requiem mass will be held on Monday, 1st April at 10.30am at the Carmelite Church, 41, Kensington Church Street, London W8. Followed by cremation at 12.15pm at the Putney Vale Crematorium. Flowers, maybe sent to P. W. Ballard & Son, 300-308 Old Brompton Rd, London SW5. For further information tel: Michael. 01-874 1445.

ELLIS, CLIFFORD On 19th March, 1985, at home after a long illness. Private burial has already taken place in Wiltshire. A celebration of Cl's life and work is being planned later this year.

ETTLINGER. – On March 25, 1985, Leonard David ("Streaky") at his home in Dolphin Square, aged 87. Cremation at Golders Green on Friday, March 29th at 11.30 am. No flowers by request.

FAIR – On March 27, Dom Ninian, Prior of Downside, aged 78. Funeral at Downside Abbey, Tuesday April 2 at 2.30pm. RIP.

GREENWOOD – On 26th March, 1985, suddenly in Amersham Hospital, Roger Paul, loved husband of Anne and father of Paul and Simon. Funeral service will take place on Tuesday, 2nd April, at Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham at 10.30am. Finally flowers only, donations to Charity of own choice. No letters please.

HANCOCK. – On March 25th, peacefully in Hospital, Geoffrey Maberley Hancock, O.B.E. (Military), C.B.E. Deeply mourned by Nancy, Peter, Mary, Pete and Jane. Service at 3pm April 1st at Putney Vale Crematorium.

KOERTING. – On 25th March, peacefully in his sleep, Kenneth George, dearly loved husband of Kay and father of John and Sally. Funeral service at St Peter's Parish Church, Walton-on-Thames, on Wednesday, 3rd April at 2.15pm, followed by cremation at Randalls Park (by family only). Family flowers but donations if desired to Linear Accelerator Appeal Fund, Westminster Hospital, London.

LEVY VIVIENNE STELLA (née Shafter) of 1 Sandringham Road, Birkdale, Southport, Merseyside, much loved wife of Bob (Editor), mother of Michelle and David, peacefully at home on March 26 after a short illness. The funeral will take place at 2pm on Thursday March 28 at Duke Street Cemetery, Southport. No flowers please.

McALLISTER – Charles Leslie, on 25rd March 1985, aged 78 years. 30 years a resident of Marlow, Bucks. The funeral took place on 27th March 1985, at Bisham Church, near Marlow, Bucks.

MELLERIO Dorothy May, 26th March 1985, aged 86, peacefully at home. Dearly loved by all those who knew her. Funeral service 11.30am, 1st April 1985 at St George's Church, Camden Hill, London W8. Cremation private. Flowers to John Hussey Ltd. 2 Berkeley Gdns, W8.

MONICO. On 26th March at home in his 89th year Alfred J., husband of Charles and father of Martin and David. Private cremation followed by interment in Switzerland.

NUGENT On 24th March 1985, Helena Nugent suddenly but peacefully at La Hougue Jersey after a short illness. Funeral private. No flowers please but donations in lieu may be sent to any branch of Save The Children Fund. A memorial service will be held in London at a date to be notified later.

PALGRAVE BROWN – (née Leach) peacefully on March 26th. Jessie in her 94th year of Redcliffe, Bungay, Suffolk. Dearly loved mother of Ian, Alan and Alastair, grandmother of Andrew and Nigel, and great grandmother of Matthew and Philip. Funeral Service All Saints Church, Ringsfield, Beccles, Suffolk, on Monday, April 1st at 2.30pm followed by private cremation. No flowers by request. Donations if desired for The Friends of Ringsfield Church, c/o Harvey Bros Funeral Directors, Kirby Cane, Bungay, Suffolk.

PHILLIPS. – On 24th March 1985, Leonard Charles Wood (Charly) at home in Oxford after an illness bravely fought. The dearly loved husband of Nellie and very dear father of David and Tony, and loved grandfather. Funeral service at St Michael and the Angels Church, on Friday 29th March at 2.15 p.m., followed by private cremation. Flowers only. Donations if desired to Imperial Cancer Research, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London. WC2A 3PX.

REDWOOD. – On 25th March, last Marilyn, aged 30, tragically in a flying accident. Dearly missed by his wife Janice, daughter Amy and partner Maurice Jarvis. Funeral at 11.30am, Monday, April 1st. Down Ampney Parish Church, Gloucestershire. Flowers to Reeves & Pain, 280 Abingdon Rd, Oxford.

ROBINSON. On 25th March 1985, peacefully at home, Master E R W Robinson. Mr. Funeral service at Bagendon Church, Gloucestershire on 30th March at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to The British Heart Foundation Appeal, 102 Gloucester Place, London W1H 4DH.

SLEE – After a short illness, Marcia Appold MA, of Spital, Dyfed, formerly of Witney, Oxon, beloved husband of Jean and much loved father and grandfather. Cremation Thursday 28th March. Family flowers only. donations if wished to R.N.L.I.

STONE – Rivers Garland C.M.G., O.B.E. on 26th March, 1985 in Mexico city. Mourned by his wife Felix, the Lawrence family and the Haynes family.

TAYLOR. MARGARET IRENE, wife of the late Bishop Ralph Taylor, peacefully in her sleep on March 25th in her 97th year. Greatly loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother, and friend to many. Funeral service at Brill Parish Church on Friday the 29th at 2.15pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only; donations if desired to the Church Missionary Society. Service of thanksgiving in Oxford to be arranged later.

DEATHS

WHATELEY – On March 26th at St Bartholomew's Hospital, Beulah Tonate (Tony), dearly beloved wife of Barry and daughter of Freda. Funeral service at Golders Green Crematorium, on Monday, 1st April at 3pm. Flowers to Putnam Ltd, Funeral Directors, 186 Streatfield Rd, Kenton, Harrow, Middx.

WILSON – On March 25th in Tunbridge Wells, after a short illness, Colonel Henry James (Jock) Wilson CBE, TD, beloved husband of Anita and much loved father of Alistair, Bruce and Gordon, and grandfather of Melville, Sophie, Clare, James, Joe, Elizabeth and Toby. Funeral service at the Kent and Sussex Crematorium, Tunbridge Wells, on Monday, 1st April at 4.30pm for family and local friends. Memorial service to be arranged later. No flowers please, but donations if desired to The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institute of the London Scottish Regiment Benevolent Fund.

YOUNG. – On March 24th, William John, sadly missed by Mavis, Jennifer and Mary. Service at Christ Church, Victoria Road, Kensington. Flowers to E. B. Ashton, 96 Fulham Road SW3.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

BROMHEAD, RALPH and **PEGGY.** A belated but sincere thank you to everyone who sent flowers, letters and messages of sympathy last year on the death of my parents. They have been unable to thank everyone personally as I had hoped. Thank you to all those who attended my father's Thanksgiving Service and who made donations in his memory to the Cinema and Television Benevolent Fund. – Ann Fox.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUNG CATHEDRAL SINGERS

The three main prize winners in the first Britain's Boys' Young Cathedral Singer of the Year events held on the 19th March, at St Sepulchre without Newgate Church, London, were: 1st, Master Jeremy Unwin (Westminster Cathedral).

2nd, Master Julian Gibson (Winchester College Music School).

3rd, Master Andrew Gardner (Litchfield Cathedral).

Adjudication was by Mr Richard Hickox, Mr David Squibb, and (guest adjudicator) Mr Steve Race.

Further information from Alexander Bourne, House Information Services Ltd, 173-202 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6NH. Telephone: 01-637 2400.

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WHEELER, Dennis Wheeler, late of Top Flat, 4 Vane Street, Bathwick, Bath, Avon, died at Bath on 1 August 1984. Estate about £16,000. The Mother of the above-named is requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (Ref: Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate

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Today's television and radio programmes

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BBC 1

00 **Ceefax AM.**
50 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. Weather at 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.25, 8.55 and 9.18; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.57, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27; national and international news with Debbie Rix at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 7.20, 7.45 and 8.20; a review of the morning newspapers at 8.37. Plus, Zoe Brown's teenage report; Glynn Christian's cookery advice; and Richard Smith's 'phone-in surgery.
.20 **Ceefax. 10.30 Play School** presented by Chloe Ashcroft (r). **10.50 Ceefax.**
.30 **News After Noon** with Michael Cole and Chris Lowe. The weather details come from Michael Fish. 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles).
.00 **Pebble Mill at One.** Anna Ford is in the studio to talk about her book on men; and there is another finalist in the Youth Caring Awards. **1.45 Bagpuss.** A See-Saw programme for the very young (r). **2.00 Ceefax.**
20 **Racing from Aintree,** introduced by Julian Wilson. Coverage of the Gold Label Cup Chase (2.35) and the Whitbread Pale Ale Handicap Hurdle (3.10). The 3.45 and 4.20 races are covered on BBC 2. **3.25 Ceefax. 3.48** Regional news (not London).
3.58 **Play School,** presented by Iain Lauchlan (r). **4.10 The Family Ness.** Animated series about a family of monsters who live in a Scottish loch.
4.15 **Jackanory.** William Rushton with the fourth part of Norman Lindsay's The Magic Pudding. **4.30 Yogi Bear. 4.35 Dogtanian and the Three Muskehounds.**
4.55 **Newsround** with Paul McDowell. **5.05 Blue Peter.** The guest is Tony Dutton who will be attempting a Polar flight later this year in a single-engined aircraft with an eight-metre wingspan (Ceefax).
.35 **Dr Kildare.** Part five of the drama about the stresses put on those who allocate time on a kidney machine.
6.00 **News** with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell. Weather.
6.35 **London Plus.**
7.00 **EastEnders.** More drama and cockney humour from the denizens of Albert Square (Ceefax).
7.30 **Top of the Pops.**
8.00 **Only Fools and Horses.** Del believes he is to make some easy money when he bets Rodney that 'Rodders' cannot find an attractive girl to take to the pub social (Ceefax).
8.30 **A Question of Sport.** Bill Beaumont and Emlyn Hughes are joined by Tessa Sanderson, Neale Doughty, Phil Blakeway and Andy Gray. The questionmaster is David Coleman (Ceefax).
.00 **News** with Julia Somerville. Weather.
9.25 **I Woke Up One Morning.** Part two of Carla Lane's black comedy about the trials and tribulations of four men attending a drying-out clinic.
9.55 **Question Time,** presented by Donald MacCormick. The panel is Baroness Warnock, Dr Oonagh McDonald, MP, John Patten and Alan Watson.
10.55 **The Visit: The Boy David Trilogy.** The second documentary in the series about how a young Peruvian boy was rescued from a pauper's hospital in Lima to find, after a series of 53 operations on his disease-disfigured face, he is regarded as an illegal alien in both Britain and the United States (r) (Ceefax).
11.45 **Rockschool.** A series for the aspiring rock musicians (r).
12.10 **Weather.**

TV-am

6.15 **Good Morning Britain,** presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.16, 6.45, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00 and 9.22; sport at 6.39 and 7.37; exercises at 6.50 and 9.19; Popeye cartoon at 7.54; Loyd Grossman in Cardiff at 8.15; wedding catering advice at 8.22; babytalk at 9.03. The guests include Mel Smith and Jean-Michel Jarre.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **Thames** news headlines. **9.30 For Schools:** novelist Jan Needle talks about books for children. **9.45** Clowns help to explain mathematical ideas. **10.06** A trip along the Amsterdam canals. **10.23** Health education. **10.40** The modern theory of evolution. **11.02** Maths: the number ten. **11.14** The meaning of safe. **11.31** Children talk about the death of their pets. **11.43** the world of computers.
12.00 **The Little Green Man.** Adventures to a visitor from another planet. With the voice of Jon Pertwee **12.10 Mooncat and Co** with guest Wilf Lunn **12.30 The Sullivans.**
1.00 **News at One** and weather **1.20** *Thames news* with Robin Houston **1.30 Falcon Crest.** Drama serial set in California wine country starring Jane Wyman with Gina Lollobrigida and Simon MacCorkindale.
2.30 **Daytime.** Sarah Kennedy chairs a studio discussion on matter of topical importance **3.00 Gems.** Dramas in the fashion workshop **3.25** *Thames news* headlines **3.30 Sons and Daughters.**
4.00 **The Little Green Man.** A repeat of the programme shown at noon **4.15 Batfink** is on the trail of Myron the Magician **4.20 Sooty** with Matthew Corbett and guest, Alvin Stardust **4.40 Words, Words, Words.** Educational entertainment **5.00 Dangermouse.**
5.15 **Thames Sport** presented by Steve Rider. Graeme Souness assesses the results of this week's international football matches; and Derek Thompson previews Saturday's Grand National and talks to leading trainer, Jenny Pitman.
5.45 **News.**
6.00 **Thames news.**
6.25 **Help!** Viv Taylor Gee with news of the Black Cultural Archives.
6.35 **Crossroads.** David and Barbara Hunter are promised help by Dr Wilcox.
7.00 **Emmerdale Farm** Tom Merrick visits the farm and seems keen to talk to Pat.
7.30 **Street Hawk.** Another case for the crime-fighting Jesse Mach and his supercharged motorcycle.
8.30 **Minder: A Lot of Bull and a Pat on the Back.** Arthur is experiencing a cash-flow problem and leaps at the chance of earning a £4,000 fee, with a £500 advance, for repossessing stolen property. (r)
9.30 **TV Eye: The Kerry Babies.** A report on the Dublin government's inquiry into the police treatment of an unmarried mother and the questions the case raises about attitudes in Ireland to sex and contraception.
10.00 **News at Ten** and weather.
10.30 **Kojak.** The New York policeman in a race against time to clear the name of a murdered policeman who was suspected of taking bribes.
11.30 **Indoor Bowls: Croft Original British Open.** First round and quarterfinal action featuring this year's top 16 players. The commentators at Darlington are Hugh Johns and the national coach, Jimmy Davidson.
12.30 **Night Thoughts.**



Towers of Silence: on Channel 4, 11.00pm

● **TOPOL'S ISRAEL** begins its six-week run tonight (BBC2 8.30pm); an odd mixture of travelogue, musical, and documentary that ought, by right, to fall flat on its face between three stools. The fact that it doesn't is probably due to the ingratiating personality of its guide/narrator, Chaim Topol, as much as to anything else. A highly subjective view of Israel, naturally, particularly in the case of tonight's film because it finds Topol in Tel Aviv, city of his birth and boyhood. There is an old chum at every street corner, and it is only a short stroll to the beach where his father, a member of the Haganah underground during the days of the British mandate, helped to smuggle European immigrants ashore. When the mood takes him, and the venue is propitious, Topol bursts into song. One such venue is the local open-air market, which

CHOICE

results in a double bonus: an endorsement of the unbeatable quality of Israeli fresh fruit and veg, and a useful boost for the BBC record that features some of the songs from the series.
● **UNION STREET** (BBC2, 9.50pm), this week's *Forty Minutes* documentary, is a lament for a notorious past. The unlovely thoroughfare connecting the posher part of Plymouth with the naval dockyards, used to be where, in the pursuit of a good time, sailors could rely on being separated from the contents of their wallets. Now, says a local resident, the tiger has become a pussy cat. Prostitutes look like typists, having an evening out. And the worst case of depravity we see is the tequila- swigging contest between Britain and the United States during which there are occasional toasts to the Queen and Ronald Reagan.
● **TOWERS OF SILENCE** (Channel 4, 11.00pm), Jamil Dehlavi's deceptively complex essay on death and destiny, set in the Pakistan of the seventies, is recognizably the work of the same man who was later to write and direct *The Blood of Hussain*. There is the same intensity of image (emphasized in *Towers of Silence* by the black-and-white photography), and the same juxtaposition of the mystical and the prosaic. Just as the repeated image of the white stallion in *Blood of Hussain* haunts our memory of that film, so the omnipresent vultures will long hover above our recollection of Dehlavi's remarkable first film that is screened tonight.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

6.30 **Open University:** Maths: Classifying Cubics. **6.55** Energy: A Question of Balance. Ends at 7.20.
9.00 **Ceefax.**
9.20 **Daytime on Two:** German conversation. **9.38** French conversation. **9.55** Spanish conversation. **10.12** Science: stiff shapes 'B'. **10.34** The pros and cons of professional boxing. **11.05** The life of a ten-year-old cotton factory worker, two centuries ago. **11.30** Part five of the series on the archaeological background to the Gospels.
11.55 Lesson five of the better tennis course. **12.20** Part five of the series on the history of women's magazines. **12.45 Ceefax. 12.55** Teaching about computer control. **1.20** Italian conversation. **1.38** The flora and fauna of a wood in Scotland. **2.00** For the very young. **2.15** Part ten of the musical story of Hary Janos. With Peter Ustinov. **2.40** Ending a book. **3.00 Ceefax.**
3.25 **Racing from Aintree** (continued from BBC1) The Whitbread Trophy Handicap Chase (3.45); and the Whitbread Best Mild Novices Chase (4.20).
4.35 **Ceefax.**
5.20 **News** summary with subtitles. Weather.
5.25 **The Show Me Show,** presented by Maggie Philbin and John Craven. (r).
6.00 **Film: Houseboat** (1958) starring Cary Grant and Sophia Loren. Romantic comedy about a widower, bringing up his three children, who hires a maid who is really a socialite, and goes to live on a rickety houseboat. Directed by Melville Shavelson.
7.45 **Animation Now.** The Hungarian-made Take It Easy.
7.50 **Ours To Keep.** The story of shipwright Brian Patterson and his Portsmouth Royal Dockyard Historical Society which fought to have the dockyard designated a heritage centre.
8.30 **Topol's Israel.** The first of six musical documentaries, presented by Topol, that illustrate Israel's cosmopolitan culture, peoples, life-styles and geographical contrasts. (see Choice).
9.00 **Oscar.** The final part of John Hawkesworth trilogy and Oscar Wilde is residing in Pentonville Prison, serving a two year sentence. 'Bosie' is living abroad and Wilde's wife and family have been forced to change their name. (Ceefax.)
9.50 **Forty Minutes: Union Street.** A profile of the once notorious thoroughfare that links the town of Plymouth with the Royal Naval Dockyard in Devonport. (see Choice).
10.30 **Newsnight. 11.15 Weather.**
11.20 **Animation Now.** Oscar-winning offering from Poland – Tango.
11.30 **Open University:** Weekend Outlook. **11.35** Technology: New Bearings for Old. **12.00** Art in Italy: Riccio's Bronzes. Ends at 12.30.

CHANNEL 4

2.35 **Film: Desperate Journey"** (1942) starring Errol Flynn, Ronald Reagan, Raymond Massey and Arthur Kennedy. The crew of an aircraft, shot down over Germany in 1942, escape into the Black Forest where they elude the chasing Gestapo and make for the Dutch border. Directed by Raoul Walsh.
4.30 **The People's Court.** Judge Wapner rules in the case of the Disappearing Furniture.
5.00 **Film: The Battle of Britain"** (1943). A Way We Fight documentary for American soldiers coming to Britain. The film shows Hitler's triumphant entry into Paris, then in Dunkirk, then in Calais, looking across the Channel to his ultimate goal. The film continues with footage of the massive air attacks on Britain and in particular, on London. Directed by Frank Capra.
5.55 **Americans in Britain.** Extracts from the 1943 film, Time to Remember. The narrator is William Bendix.
6.10 **Film: The Negro Soldier"** (1944). A documentary designed to boost the morale of black servicemen and to illustrate to their white comrades-in-arms the contributions of the blacks to the wars fought by America. Directed by Frank Capra and Stuart Heisler.
7.00 **Channel Four News.**
7.50 **Comment.** With a personal view on a matter of topical importance is landscape ecologist, Jacqui Steam.
8.00 **Discovery.** The final programme in the series examining examples of innovation and discovery in the worlds of engineering and science. David Bellamy and Miranda Robertson analyse unusual animal behaviour – the elaborate courtship of fruit flies. What is the value of the performance? Professor John Maynard-Smith explains the significance of the dancing.
8.30 **Mirror Image.** Lloyd Cole and the Commotions in concert at London's Marquee and in conversation with David Wigg.
9.30 **Play: The Wedding,** by V. S. Pritchett, adapted by Thomas Ellice. Tom Bell and Meg Wynn Owen star in this tale, set in a small English market town, about a widower's concern when he realises he will be left alone to run his farm after one daughter marries and the other goes up to university. Directed by Gordon Flemyng. (First shown on ITV).
10.30 **Design Matters.** The fourth programme in the series about the way surroundings affect out lives focuses on parts of Kent and Sussex and examines some of the changes that have occurred in the landscape.
11.00 **Towers of Silence."** A drama about a young boy's ritualistic obsession with death. Set in Pakistan, it is Jamil Dehlavi's first film and won the Grand prize for best experimental film at the 1975 Festival of the Americas. (see Choice).
11.55 **Closedown.**

Radio 4

On long wave. † also VHF stereo.

5.55 **Shipping. 6.00 News Briefing; Weather. 6.10 Farming. 6.25** Prayer.
6.30 **Today,** incl **6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News. 6.45 Business News. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.20 Letters. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45** Thought for Day. **8.35** Yesterday in Parliament. **8.57 Weather; Travel.**
9.00 **News.**
9.05 **Ray Gosling** in the House of . . . story of 24 women from South Wales who made themselves into a profitable workers; co-operatie in the rag trade (r).
9.30 **The Living World: Cuckoo.**
10.00 **News; Medicine Now.** With Geoff Watts.
10.30 **Morning Story: 'Flying Eggs and Things'.** Written and read by Henry Livings.
10.45 **An Act of Worship†.**
11.00 **News; Travel; Analysis. The Wage Virus.** With Mary Goldring (r).
11.48 **History Reflected. 'The Restoration of Charles II'.** Presented by John Carroll. The readers: Carole Boyd, Garard Green and Anthony Hyde.
12.00 **News, Your and Yours.** Pattie Coldwell with news and advice for consumers.
12.27 **Just a Minute** with Kenneth Williams, Peter Jones, Derek Nimmo, William Franklyn and Nicholas Parsons (r). **12.55 Weather.**
1.00 **The World at One: News.**
1.40 **The Archers. 1.55 Shipping.**
2.00 **News; Woman's Hour.** Includes a report on child-minders, by Karen Deco. And the seventh episode of The Private World of Georgette Heyer.
3.00 **The Afternoon Play: Widowers,** by Alun Owen. With Tony Haygarth, John Shrapnel, and Elizabeth Morgan. Sequel to last week's Owen play After the Funeral. Morgan and Dave, now both widowers, are struggling to maintain good relationships with their children†.
4.00 **News; Enquire Within** with Neil Landor.
4.10 **Bookshelf.** Includes an interview with David Lodge, author of Small World (r).
4.40 **Story Time: 'Jennings in Particular'** by Anthony Buckeridge (8). Read by the author.
5.00 **PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping. 5.55 Weather.**
6.00 **The Six O'Clock News;** incl Financial Report.
6.30 **Brain of Britain 1985.** National general knowledge contest. This is a second chance tohear the first round, between London teams. Robert Robinson is the chairman† (r).
7.00 **News.**
7.05 **The Archers.**
7.20 **Any Answers?** A chance for Any Questions? listeners to air their views.
7.40 **International Assignment.**
8.10 **Hi-Tech.** Alun Lewis reports on the latest technological developments.
8.40 **Profile.** Andrew Neil, editor of The Sunday Times.
9.00 **Does He Take Sugar?** Magazine programme of special interest to disabled listeners.
9.30 **Glyn Worsnip** in the BBC Sound Archives.
9.45 **Kaleidoscope.** After the Ball is Over, at the Old Vic, London; and the Maclean Gallery exhibition Eastern and Western erotic art, and David Leavitt's book Family Dancing is reviewed by Francis King.
10.15 **A Book at Bedtime: 'The Rich Mrs Robinson'** by Winfield Beechney (9). Read by Pauline Letts. **10.29 Weather.**
10.30 **The World Tonight,** incl **11.00 Headlines.**
11.15 **The Financial World Tonight.**
11.30 **Today in Parliament. 12.00-12.15 News; Weather. 12.33 Shipping.**
VHF (available in England and S Wales only) – Radio 4 vhf is as above, except: **5.55-6.00am Weather; Travel. 9.05-10.45 For Schools: 9.05** A Service for Schools. **9.25** Secondary English (11-14). **9.50** First Steps in Drama. **10.10** Playtime. **10.25** In Your Own Time. **11.00-12.00 For Schools: 11.00** Noticeboard. **11.15** In The News. **11.30** Wavelength. **1.55-3.00pm For Schools: 1.55** Listening Corner. **2.05** The Music Box. **2.20** Living Language. **2.40** Newscast. **5.50-5.55 PM** (continued). **11.00** Study on 4: The State of the Vatican. **11.30-12.00 Open University: 11.30** The Metaphysical Poets. **11.50** Music interlude. **12.30-1.10am Schools Night-time Broadcasting:** Software Review (secondary).

Radio 3

6.55 **Weather. 7.00 News.**
7.05 **Morning Concert:** Berlioz's overture Rob Roy (Scottish National, under Gibson); Handel's incidental music The Alchymist (Academy of Ancient Music under Hogwood); Liszt's Grand galop chromatique, G 219 (Bolet, piano); Rubbra's Improvisations on Virginal Pieces by Giles Farnaby (Bournemouth Sinfonietta under Schonzeler). † **8.00 News.**
8.05 **Morning Concert** (contd): Schubert's overture in D, D 556 (Vienna PO under Munchinger); Lekeu's Violin Sonata in G (Dumay/Collard); William Babell's Recorder Concerto in C, Op 3 No 1 (Petri/Academy of St Martin-in-Fields); Handel's overture in D minor, arranged Elgar (Pittsburgh SO under Previn). † **9.00 News.**
9.05 **This Week's Composer: Chopin.** Performances, on record, of the Berceuse in D flat Op 57: Preludes in A flat Op 29, No 17; F minor, Op 28 No 18; Cello Sonata in G minor, Op 65; and Bar carolle in F sharp, Op 60. †
10.00 **Dvorak: Philharmonia,** under Davis, play the Symphony No 8. †
10.45 **French piano music** for violin and piano: Tomotada Soh (violin) and Paul Hamburger. Fauré's Violin Sonata No 2; Lili Boulanger's D'un matin de printemps; Nocturne; and Fauré's Berceuse.
11.25 **Six Continents: Angus McDermid** with foreign radio broadcasts, monitored by the BBC (r).
11.45 **Russian music: Assen Vassilev** (bass) with BBC Philharmonic (under Downes). Shostakovich's Suite on Verses of Michelangelo; and Mussorgsky's Pictures from an Exhibition (orchestrated by Ravel). † **1.00 News.**
1.05 **Bristol Lunchtime Concert:** Alberni String Quartet, with Martin Hughes (piano). Haydn's String Quartet in C, Op 74 No 1; Schumann's Piano Quintet in E flat Op 44. †
2.00 **Mendelssohn: Elijah.** Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra (Levine conducting), with Vienna Philharmonic Choral Society, and soloists Florence Quivar, Francisco Araiza, Jose van Dam and Gabriele Benackova-Cap. Part one. †
3.10 **Elijah:** part two. †
4.20 **Berg and Brahms:** Walter Klien (piano). Berg's Sonata Op 1; and Brahms's Fantasien Op 116. † **4.55 News.**
5.00 **Mainly for Pleasure:** another of Natalie Wheen's selections . †
6.30 **Bandstand:** Brighouse and Rastrick Band (under Watson). Henry Geehl's Oliver Cromwell; and Cyril Jenkins's Life Divine. †
7.00 **Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra** (under Karl Bohm). Part one. Beethoven's overture Creatures of Prometheus; and Piano Concerto No 4 (soloist: Pollini). †
7.40 **Letter from Taiwan:** talk by Professor A. H. Halsey, Professor of Social and Administrative Studies, Oxford University.
8.00 **Concert:** part two. Beethoven's Symphony No 2. †
8.45 **Camels, Seals and Fat Astronauts:** Professor Colin Blakemore explores some of the strategies animals have evolved to deal with the rigours of their environments.
9.30 **BBC Singers at Abingdon:** with Simon Joly conducting. Bartok's Five Slovak Folk Songs; Britten's Hymn to St Cecilia; Anna Boyd's, As I crossed a bridge of dreams. †
10.00 **Music in Our Time: Pierre Boulez** conducts performances of his Eclat/Multiples; Repons; performed by Ensemble Intercontemporain. †
11.05 **Ulster Orchestra** (under Joly). Guy-Ropartz's Scènes Bretonnes; Poulenc's La matelote provencale; Poulenc's Sinfonietta; and Rabaud's Eglogue (Poème Virgilien, Op 7). †
11.57 **News. Until 12.00.**
VHF only: Open University. From 6.35 am to 6.55.

Radio 2

4.00 **Colin Berry.†** 6.00 **Ray Moore.†** 8.05 **Ken Bruce.†** 10.30 **Jimmy Young.†** 1.05pm **Sports Desk; David Jacobs†** 2.00 **Paul Heiney† incl. Racing from Aintree** 3.45 **Whitbread Trophy Bitter Steeplechase.** 3.30 **Music all the Way.** 4.00 **Steve Jones† incl. 4.02, 5.05** Sports Desk. 8.00 **John Dunn† incl. 6.02** Sports Desk 6.45 **Sport and Classified results (MF) only.** 8.00 **Country Club.†** 9.55 **Sports Desk.** 10.00 **The News Huddlines.** 10.30 **Star Sound Extra** (the current movie scene). 11.00 **Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight** (stereo from midnight. 1.00am **Nightride.†** 3.00–4.00 **Art Pepper** on alto saxophone and clarinet.

Radio 1

6.00 **Adrian John.** 7.00 **Mike Read.** 9.00 **Simon Bates.** 12.00 **Mark Page incl. 12.30 Newsbeat.** 2.30 **Steve Wright.** 5.00 **Bruno Brookes incl. 5.30 Newsbeat.** 7.30 **Janice Long incl. at 7.45** The Radio Talk Show: (Simon Bates from Margate). 10.00–12.00am into The Music (John Verity).

WORLD SERVICE

5.00 **Newsdesk.** 7.00 **World News.** 7.09 **Twenty-Four Hours.** 7.30 **Short Takes.** 7.45 **Network UK.** 8.00 **World News.** 8.09 **Reflections.** 8.15 **International Soccer Special.** 8.30 **John Peel.** 9.00 **World News.** 9.09 **Review of the British Press.** 9.15 **The World Today.** 9.30 **Financial News.** 9.40 **Look Ahead.** 9.45 **Monitor.** 10.00 **News Summary.** 10.01 **Handel and the Oratorio.** 10.30 **Yes Minister.** 11.00 **World News.** 11.09 **News About Britain.** 11.15 **New Ideas.** 11.25 **The Week in Wales.** 12.00 **Radio Newsreel.** 12.15 **Top Twenty.** 12.45 **Sports Roundup.** 1.00 **World News.** 1.09 **Twenty-Four Hours.** 1.30 **Network UK.** 1.45 **Kicking up the Sawdust.** 2.00 **Outlook.** 2.45 **Out On The Floor.** 3.00 **Radio Newsreel.** 3.15 **The Pleasure's Yours.** 4.00 **World News.** 4.09 **Commentary.** 4.15 **Assignment.** 4.45 **The World Today.** 5.00 **World News.** 5.09 **Meridian.** 5.40 **The Week in Wales.** 6.00 **World News.** 6.15 **A Jolly Good Show.** 10.00 **World News.** 10.09 **The World Today.** 10.25 **The Week in Wales.** 10.30 **Financial News.** 10.40 **Reflections.** 10.45 **Sports Roundup.** 11.00 **World News.** 11.09 **Commentary.** 11.15 **Merchant Navy Programme.** 11.30 **Meridian.** 12.00 **World News.** 12.09 **News About Britain.** 12.15 **Radio Newsreel.** 12.30 **Mainstream.** 1.00 **News Summary.** 1.01 **Outlook.** 1.30 **At Home With . . .** 1.45 **Ulster Newsletter.** 2.00 **World News.** 2.08 **Review of the British Press.** 2.15 **Sins of Old Age.** 2.30 **The Element of Music.** 3.00 **World News.** 3.09 **News About Britain.** 3.15 **The World Today.** 3.30 **Business Matters.** 4.00 **Newsdesk.** 4.30 **Country Music Profile.** 5.45 **The World Today.**

(All times in GMT)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; **Radio 2:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; **Radio 3:** 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; **Radio 4:** 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; **LBC** 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; **Capital:** 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; **BBC Radio London** 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; **World Service** MF 648kHz/463m.

BBC1 Wales. 12.57–1.00 News of Wales Headlines. 3.48–3.50 News of Wales Headlines. 5.35–6.00 Wales Today. 6.35–7.00 Dr Kildare. 8.30–9.00 Week in Week Out. 9.55–11.15 The Fasting Girl. 11.15–12–05am The Visit: The Boy David Trilogy. 12.05–12.30 Rockschool. 12.30–12.35 News and weather. **Scotland.** 12.57–1.00 The Scottish News. 6.35–7.00 Reporting Scotland. 12.10–12.15 News and weather. **Northern Ireland.** 12.57–1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.48–3.50 Northern Ireland News. 5.35–5.40 Today's Sport. 5.40–5.00 Inside Ulster. 6.35–7.00 Dr Kildare. 12.10–12.15 News and weather. **England.** 6.35–7.00 Regional news magazine.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

S4C Starts 1.00pm Countdown. 1.45 Three Stooges. 2.00 Beth, Sut, Pam, Pryd A Ble? 2.20 Ffalabalam. 2.35 Hwnt Ac Yma. 2.55 Interval. 3.20 Making of Brittain. 3.50 Cartoon Carnival. 4.15 A Plus 4. 4.45 Ffalabalam. 5.00 Deri Deg. 5.05 Gwaed Ar Y Dagrau. 5.30 Bewitched. 6.00 Brookside. 6.30 Be Nesa? 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Cerdded Afon. 8.05 Coleg. 8.35 Awyr Iach. 9.10 Worldwise. 10.10 Film: The Contract (Leslie Caron). 12.10am Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.25pm European Folk Tales. 12.40–1.00 Contact. 1.20 News. 1.30–2.30 Champions. 5.15–5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25–7.00 News. 10.30 Eco. 11.00–11.30 Protectors. 12.30am Closedown.

TSW As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30–2.30 Love Boat. 5.15 Gus Honeybun. 5.20–5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30 Gardens For All. 7.00–7.30 Benson. 10.35–11.30 Yellow Rose. 12.30am Postscript. Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30–2.30 Champions. 5.15–5.45 Blockbusters. 6.00 Crossroads. 7.00–7.30 Morecambe and Wise Show. 10.30–11.30 Bygones Special. 12.30am Thursday Topic, Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30–2.30 Love Boat. 3.30–4.00 World Curling Championships. 5.15–5.45 Blockbusters. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30 Police News. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00–7.30 Studio One. 10.30 Guess Who's Coming to Dinner. 11.00 News. 11.10 Curling. 12.10am About Gaelic. 12.40 Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 1.20pm Granada Reports. 1.30 Mr and Mrs. 2.00–2.30 Mr Smith. 3.30–4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15–5.45 Beverly Hillbillies". 6.00 This Is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30–7.00 Granada Reports. 10.30–11.30 Falcon Crest. 12.30am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.30pm–1.00 Calendar Picture Show. 1.20 News. 1.30–2.30 Love Boat. 5.15–5.45 Sounds Good. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35–7.00 Crossroads. 10.30 Live at City Hall. 11.00–11.30 Barney Miller. 12.30am Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30 Short Story Theatre. 2.00–2.30 Young Doctors. 5.15–5.45 Whose Baby? 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35–7.00 Crossroads. 10.30 Studio One. 11.00–11.30 Protectors. 12.30am News, Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30 Bodyline. 1.35–2.30 Love Boat. 3.30–4.00 World Curling Championships. 5.15–5.45 Blockbusters. 6.00 News and Scotland Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00–7.30 Police Squad. 10.30 Crime Desk. 10.40 Report. 11.10 Curling. 12.10am Late Call.

TYNE TEES As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30–2.30 Champions. 5.15–5.45 Dreams. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25–7.00 Northern Life. 10.32 The Works. 11.10–11.30 God Sees the Truth But Waits. 12.30am Mission England, Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 1.20pm Lunchtime. 1.30–2.30 Poseidon Files. 3.30–4.00 Orphans of the Wild. 5.15–5.45 Captain Scarlet. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.25 Police Six. 6.35–7.00 Crossroads. 10.30 Counterpoint. 11.00–11.30 Barney Miller. 12.30am News, Closedown.

TVS As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30–2.30 Falcon Crest. 3.30–4.00 Protectors. 5.15–5.45 Blockbusters. 10.30 Police Squad. 11.00–11.30 Inn Quiz. 12.30am Company, Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN

† Stereo. ★ Black and whites. (r) Repeat

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BARBICAN HALL. MARCH 30. Owing to unforeseen circumstances the concert performance of Mike Batt's 'Hunting of the Snark' has been cancelled. Ticket holders please return tickets to the Box Office by post for full refund.

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Advertising on BBC to be studied by inquiry

Continued from page 1

tion of advertising would have on the charcter and quality of all broadcast services. It will also consider the scope for the BBC to obtain additional revenue from the consumer other than through the licence fee."

One result of the settlement is likely to be more employment by the BBC of independent production companies, thought to be more cost-effective than many in-house productions.

But the Home Office is unable to suggest to the BBC ways in which the corporation might spend its settlement. It can only set what it believes to be a fair licence fee and leave its disposal to the BBC.

Equally, all that is required for the BBC to introduce advertising is for it to obtain permission from the Home Secretary, according to an existing clause in its charter.

LICENCE FEES

	Radio	B & W TV	Col TV and radio
1922	10s		
1946	£1	£2	
1954	"	£3	
1957	"	£4*	
1963	"	£4**	
1965	£1.5s	£5	
1968	"	£5	£10
1969	"	£6	£11
1971	"	£7	£12
1975		£8	£18
1977		£9	£21
1978		£10	£25
1979		£12	£34
1981		£15	£46
1985		£18	£58

*Includes £1 excise duty
**Excise duty abolished – full £4 to the BBC
***Radio licence fee abolished

The BBC said that it welcomed the inquiry which, in its wide terms of reference, met in virtually every detail the arguments put forward by the BBC for such an investigation.

The corporation won its claim for a rise in the black and white licence from £15 to £18. Both increases came into force at midnight.

The Home Secretary said that he was examining with the BBC and the Post Office whether new arrangements could be made to improve licence fee collection and payment methods.

Man in the news, page 2
Parliament, page 4

Muddy marvels battle to be top of the form



Team strips merge in the mud as St Benedict's get to grips with Rugby in the National Schools' Sevens at Rosslyn Park yesterday.



St Joseph's (above, left) on the burst, while (right) the bubble has burst for St Benedict's. Report, page 31. (Photographs: Chris Cole).

Letter from the Thai frontier

Vietnam's hot little foreign war

Across the dusty a voice echoed through a loudspeaker: "You Thais! We'll come and get you if you help the Khmers." The Vietnamese Army was sending a message to Thai soldiers and villagers on the rough road which runs along the 450-mile Thai-Cambodian border.

In places the Thais are just a few hundred yards from Vietnamese troops camped on a canal which marks the frontier. During their offensive against the Cambodian resistance, the Vietnamese have made numerous cross-border attacks in the past four months, killing the Thais claim, more than 60 soldiers and civilians and wounding 200 others.

I have just driven along half of the frontier from Sisaket province south to Chantaburi on the Gulf of Thailand. Because of the threat Thailand says it faces from Vietnamese and Cambodian Government forces I expected to see big defence preparations. There was, in fact, not a tank or howitzer in sight, only a few bunkers facing the smoke-shrouded border.

The Vietnamese are burning anything that gives guerrillas shelter: houses, huts, stands of bamboo, any tree that provides thatch. On the border road close to O-Sralau village Thai soldiers watched a burning village formerly occupied by Khmer Rouge guerrillas and their families. They said they had seen Vietnamese soldiers set fire to the houses and surrounding bush an hour earlier.

Further north in Surin Province I drove down tracks to Thai Army outposts guarding the three most vulnerable border crossings used previously by intruding Vietnamese. Near the O-Bok Pass, which is like an open gate between Cambodia and Thailand, black-clad Thai Rangers were exchanging automatic rifle fire with Vietnamese who had come through the pass. When the Rangers came back they said the Vietnamese had been laying mines on Thai territory. As far as they knew there had been no casualties.

Elsewhere, though, there have been many. The Thais claim to have killed up to 500 Vietnamese since 3,000 crossed the border earlier this month and have produced pictures of open graves with bodies as proof. Their own military losses since March 5 are put at 27 dead and 109 wounded. Sixteen civilians were also killed.

According to the deputy commander on this section of the border, Lieutenant Pisit Hemabutr, some Vietnamese soldiers are still on Thai territory. His forces were conducting aggressive patrols to get them out but there were difficulties. The 180 miles of border under his command had 200 crossing points.

The Vietnamese are mining the crossings to seal the border against traffic from both directions. Further inside Cambodia, thousands of conscripted workers are barricading the western approaches with ditches and barbed-wire fences. Nevertheless guerrillas have gone back to fight again, according to their officials, and other people have arrived in Thailand from inside Cambodia.

Even some illicit cross-border trade in consumer goods is continuing although most of the big traders are now confined to camps inside Thailand, sweps there with almost 250,000 other refugees by Vietnam's military push.

The Thai Government says they will all go back when the wet season forces the Vietnamese to retreat from the border, but nobody believes that will happen.

The new arrivals are living at 11 evacuation sites, where they are under strict Thai military control. They are not permitted beyond the confines of their camps and some of them are very confined indeed.

Site Eight, near Khao Din, houses 35,000 Khmer Rouge people, who had been living for six years in mountain hideouts under harsh discipline. Now they have contact for the first time with foreigners and have a relative freedom they never knew in their remote settlements inside Cambodia.

Their smiles and laughter indicate that they are enjoying the new experience.

Neil Kelly

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits Jaguar Cars factory, Coventry, 12.15

Princess Anne opens the exhibition *Animal Regalia* at the Commonwealth Institute, W8, 2.30; and later, as Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, visits the St. James' Park group at the Royal Mews, Buckingham Palace, 5.30; then, as Master of the Farriers' Company, she attends a dinner given by the Lord Mayor of London, 7.35

Princess Margaret, as President, attends a dinner at the Mayfair Ballroom, Newcastle upon Tyne, in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, 7.20.

Princess Alexandra attends a reception given by the British Mexican Society, Canning House, 2 Belgrave Sq, SW1, 6.45

New exhibition

Paintings and drawings by Joseph Di Giuseppe: Municipal Museum and Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Mount Pleasant, Tunbridge Wells: Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 9.30 to 5 (ends April 13).

Exhibitions in progress

The World of Beatrix Potter: Lake District National Park Visitor Centre, Brockhole, Windermere: Mon to Sun 10 to 5 (ends Nov 4).

Photographs by Joseph Koudelka: John Hansard Gallery, The University, Southampton, Mon to Sat 10 to 6 (ends April 27).

Watercolour and guache landscapes by Philip Inwood: Wroxton Abbey, Nr Banbury: Mon to Sun 9 to 5 (ends April 7).

Textures of Brighton by C.E.A.T.A. Textile artists: Brighton Library, Church Street: Tues to Sat 10 to 5.45, Sun 2 to 5 (ends April 13).

The Book Table project: Bill Gribb – fashioner designer and Alexander Moffat – portrait drawings: National Portrait Gallery, Queen St, Edinburgh: Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends April 12).

Drawings towards sculpture: Cleveland Gallery, Victoria Rd, Middlesbrough: Tues to Sat 12 to 7 (ends May 14).

Paintings and drawings: Peter Greenham and Jane Dowling: Norwich School of Art Gallery, St George's Street, Norwich: Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends April 8).

Last chance to see

E S Lumsden's views of India: Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen, 10 to 8.

Paintings and prints by John Kingsley Cook and ceramics by Naomi Quinones: Open Eye Gallery, 75 Cumberland St, Edinburgh.

Music

Recital by the Amati Ensemble: York Castle Museum, 8.

Piano recital by Anna Markland: Royal Exchange Theatre, St Ann's Sq, Manchester, 1.05.

Concert by the Alberni String Quartet: St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, 1.

Concert by the Arioso Quartet: Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret St, Birmingham, 1.

Recital by Igor Oistrakh (violin) and Natalia Zertsalova (piano): Congress Theatre, Eastbourne, 1.

Recital by Isabelle Flory (violin) and Robin Colvill (piano): The Barn, Beech House, Curthwaite, 7.30.

Recital by Lowri Blake (cello) and Caroline Palmer (piano): St Edmund's School, Canterbury, 8.

General

Poetry Carnival, Guildhall, Southampton, 9.45 onwards.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Local Government Bill, completion of remaining stages.

Lords (3): Child Abduction and Custody Bill, committee. Representation of the People Bill, committee. Debate on overseas aid.

Portfolio

Portfolio – how to play

Monday–Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.

Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.

If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

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Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line (0254-52272 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm, on the day your overall total matches The Times Portfolio Dividend. No claims can be accepted outside these hours.

You must have your card with you when you telephone.

If you are unable to telephone someone else can claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio claims line between the stipulated times.

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The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

● Some Times Portfolio cards include minor misprints in the instructions on the reverse side. These cards are not invalidated.

● The wording of Rules 2 and 3 has been expanded from earlier versions for clarification purposes. The Game itself is not affected and will continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

New books – paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

FICTION
A Bed of Flowers, by Auberon Waugh (Quartet,) £4.95)
Life & Times of Michael K, by J.M. Coetzee (Penguin, £2.95)
Small World, by David Lodge (Penguin, £2.50)
Success, by Martin Amis (Penguin, £1.95)
The Camomile Lawn, by Mary Wesley (Black Swan, £2.95)
TheTakeover, by Muriel Spark (Panther, £1.95)
Who Are The Violets Now?, by Auberon Waugh (Quartet, £4.95)

NON–FICTION
Ernest Bevin, Foreign Secretary, by Alan Bullock (Oxford, £12.50)
Peter Maxwell Davis, by Paul Griffiths (Robson, £4.95)
The Return of Martin Guerre, by Natalie Zemen Davis (Penguin, £2.50)

PH

Roads

London and South-east: A1: Roadworks on the Great North Way (Hendon), at the junction with Tenterden Drive; nearside lane closed; may also produce delays on the A406 North Circular Rd.

The Midlands: A5: Road closed to traffic at Weston under Lizard; alternative routes signposted. A6: Single line traffic with temporary lights on the Leicester to Derby Rd, at Hathern. A6: Single line traffic with temporary lights on the Market Harborough to Desborough Rd.

Wales and West: M4: Westbound traffic on inside lane will leave M4 between junction 21 and 22 (Severn Bridge) Gwent; outside lane traffic unaffected; only one lane open between junctions 22 and 23 (B4245 Magor) in each direction at all times; delays. A38: Lane closures affecting both carriageways on the Plympton by-pass; alos lane closures on the stretch between Ivy Bridge and South Brent. A40: Contraflow at Gibraltar tunnels, between Monmouth and Raglan, Gwent.

The North: A56: Camsley Lane Lymm, Cheshire, one lane closed for repairs to M6 bridge. A6: Lane restrictions and temorary lights on Buxton Rd, High Lane, Stockport; long delays. A1: Roadworks at Beal, SE of Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland.

Scotland: A75: Single line traffic with lights (24hrs) at Threave Bridge, W of Castle Douglas. A701: Single line traffic with lights (24hrs) at St Ann's bridge, four miles S of Beattock. A68: Single line traffic with lights (24hrs) at northend of Jedburgh.

Information supplied by the AA

Anniversaries

Births: Raphael, Urbino, Italy, 1483; Saint Teresa of Avila, Avila, Spain, 1515; Johann Comenius, educational reformer, Nivnice, Czechoslovakia, 1592; Corneille Heymans, physiologist, Nobel laureate 1938, Ghent, Belgium, 1892.

Deaths: Peg Woffington, actress, London, 1760; Virginia Woolf, Rodmell, Sussex, 1941; Sergey Rachmaninoff, Beverley Hills, California, 1943; Dwight Eisenhower, general, 34th President of the USA (1953-61), Washington 1969; Colonel Yuri Gagarin, the first cosmonaut, Kirzhatsk, USSR, 1968.

The papers

The Daily Star says that America has "shown commendable restraint in refusing to make a proper diplomatic issue" over the shooting of the US army major in East Germany on Sunday. It adds that it may be that the major had no right to be where he was or that Washington is determined to do nothing that could threaten the disarmament talks in Geneva.

The Daily Express, commenting on the increase in the colour television licence, says: "If the BBC still insists that it cannot maintain itself at its present size, and sustained planned output, with anything less than £65, then it must simply curb its extravagance." The paper adds that Mr Leon Brittan is quite right to insist on the BBC becoming more "productive" and that the BBC is "long overdue" for a thorough look at how it should change and develop in the years ahead.

The Sun says that the BBC "didn't get all they asked for" with the increase in colour television licences but they get more than half and should consider themselves lucky". It adds that the BBC should make "an attempt at real economies," and "brace themselves to take some advertising".

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.79	1.79
Austria Sch	28.00	28.60
Belgium Fr	79.80	78.30
Canada $	1.73	1.65
Denmark Kr	14.25	13.55
Finland Mrk	8.30	7.90
France Fr	12.10	11.55
Germany DM	3.96	3.78
Greece Dr	177.00	186.00
Hong Kong $	9.85	9.25
Ireland Pt	1.275	1.215
Italy Lire	2,530.00	2,410.00
Japan Yen	322.00	306.00
Netherlands Gld	4.495	4.275
Norway Kr	11.45	10.90
Portugal Esc	219.00	207.00
South Africa Rd	2.80	2.40
Spain Pta	216.00	206.00
Sweden Kr	11.38	10.88
Switzerland Fr	3.35	3.20
USA $	1.275	1.215
Yugoslavia Dnr	281.00	265.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 382.7.

London: The FT Index closed down 2.7 at 979.3.

Snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) –	°C
Alpe D'Huez	175	500	good	powder	good	snow	0
Heavy snowfall for 24 hours							
Crans-Montana	30	130	fair	crust	poor	snow	7
New snow on ice base							
Courmayeur	160	400	good	heavy	good	fair	3
Avalanche danger							
Davos	45	190	good	powder	good	fair	0
Good skiing							
Les Arcs	60	260	fair	varied	fair	cloud	1
Poor visibility							
Verbier	45	180	good	heavy	fair	snow	3
Lower slopes heavy							
Wengen	35	115	good	powder	good	snow	0
New snow, improved skiing							

In the above report, supplied by the Ski Club of Great Britain representatives, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. Other snow reports page 31.

Weather forecast

A cold NW airstream will cover the British Isles.

6am to midnight

London, SE, central S, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, scattered showers, some wintry, dying out later; wind NW light or moderate becoming variable light; max temp 7C (45F).

East Anglia, E, central N, NE England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, sleet or snow showers, some heavy and prolonged later; wind NW moderate; max temp 6C (43F).

Midlands, NW England, N Wales, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland: Sunny intervals, sleet or snow showers at first; wind NW light or moderate becoming variable light; max temp 5C (43F).

Borders, Eamburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll: Snow showers, heavy and prolonged in places; wind NW moderate; max temp 4C (39F).

Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Outbreaks of snow, heavy at times; wind variable mainly NW moderate; max temp 4C (39F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Rain spreading E, preceded by some sleet or snow, brighter showery weather in the SW later, temperatures recovering to near normal.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind NW fresh or strong locally gale at first; wintry showers; visibility good; sea rough or very rough. Straits of Dover: Wind NW fresh locally strong; showers; visibility good; sea moderate to rough. English Channel: Wind NW moderate locally fresh; showers; visibility good; sea slight to moderate. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind N moderate backing W or SW light or moderate; showers; visibility good; sea slight.

Sun rises: 5.45 am Sun sets: 6.27 pm
Moon sets: 1.16 am Moon rises: 8.33 am
First quarter tomorrow.

Lighting-up time

London 6.57 pm to 5.13 am.
Bristol 7.07 pm to 5.23 am
Edinburgh 7.13 pm to 5.22 am
Manchester 7.07 pm to 5.20 am
Penzance 7.18 pm to 5.36 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun

	C	F		C	F
Belfast	c 4	39	Guernsey	f 7	45
Birmingham	f 7	45	Inverness	f 6	43
Blackpool	c 6	43	Jersey	f 7	45
Bristol	c 7	45	London	r 5	41
Cardiff	f 9	48	Manchester	c 6	43
Edinburgh	f 5	41	Newcastle	f 5	41
Glasgow	f 5	41	Ronaldsway	c 5	41

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7C (45F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 6 pm, 79 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.04in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 7hr. Bar. mean sea level, 6 pm, 1015.7 millibars
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

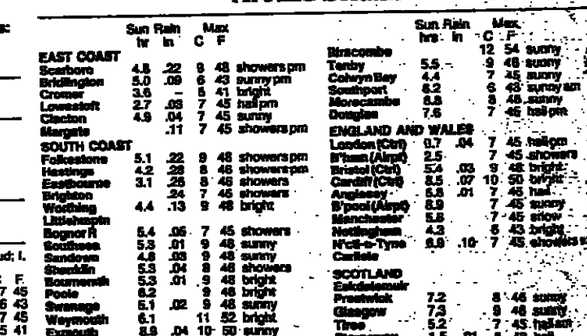
Highest and lowest

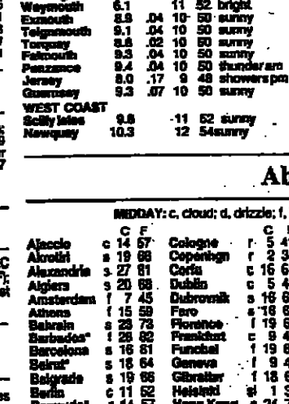
Yesterday: Highest day temp: Newquay 12C (54F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath 4C (39F); highest rainfall: Hastings 0.26in; highest sunshine: Newquay 10.3hr.

Our address

Information for inclusion in The Times Information Service should be sent to: Sally-Anne Wilkins, TTIS, The Times, PO Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

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b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; l–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures centigrade.

High tides

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5.32	6.3	5.53	6.2
Aberdeen	5.01	3.4	5.27	3.5
Avonmouth	10.38	10.5	10.45	10.5
Bethat.	2.58	2.8	3.17	3.0
Cardiff	10.23	8.9	10.30	9.0
Devonport	8.51	4.5	9.14	4.5
Dover	2.05	5.8	2.84	5.6
Falmouth	8.21	4.3	8.44	4.3
Glasgow	4.23	4.4	4.51	4.1
Harwich	3.18	3.6	3.46	3.4
Holyhead	1.49	4.7	2.16	4.5
Hull	9.53	6.2	10.21	6.1
Ilfracombe	9.27	7.4	9.41	7.2
Leith	6.25	4.5	6.46	4.5
Liverpool	2.34	8.0	3.01	7.7
Lowestoft	1.0	2.1	1.28	2.0
Margate	3.31	4.2	3.56	4.1
Milford Haven	9.49	5.6	10 04	5.5
Newquay	8.44	5.8	8.59	5.6
Oban	9.10	3.1	9.16	3.1
Penzance	7.57	4.5	8.22	4.5
Portland	9.48	1.5	10.02	1.5
Portsmouth	2.58	4.0	3.20	3.8
Shoreham	2.21	5.1	2.46	4.9
Southampton	2.28	4.0	2.56	3.8
Swansea	9.53	7.2	10.10	7.1
Tees	7.30	4.3	7.55	4.3
Walton-on-Naze	3.15	3.7	3.38	3.8

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.28ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
EAST COAST					
Scarboro	4.8	.22	9	48	showers pm
Bridlington	5.0	.09	6	43	sunny pm
Cromer	3.6	–	5	41	bright
Lowestoft	2.7	.03	7	45	hail pm
Clacton	4.9	.04	7	45	sunny
Margate		.11	7	45	showers pm
SOUTH COAST					
Folkestone	5.1	.22	9	48	showers pm
Hastings	4.2	.28	8	46	showers pm
Eastbourne	3.1	.26	8	46	showers
Brighton		.24	7	45	showers
Worthing	4.4	.13	9	48	bright
Littlehampton					
Bognor R	5.4	.06	7	45	showers
Southsea	5.3	.01	9	48	sunny
Sandown	4.8	.03	9	48	sunny
Shanklin	5.3	.04	8	46	showers
Bournemth	5.3	.01	9	48	bright
Poole	5.2		9	48	bright
Swanage	5.1	.02	9	48	sunny
Weymouth	6.1		11	52	bright
Exmouth	5.9	.04	10	50	sunny
Teignmouth	9.1	.04	10	50	sunny
Torquay	8.8	.02	10	50	sunny
Falmouth	9.3	.04	10	50	sunny
Penzance	9.4	.04	10	50	thunder am
Jersey	8.0	.17	9	48	showers pm
Guernsey	9.3	.07	10	50	sunny
WEST COAST					
Scilly Isles	9.8		11	52	sunny
Newquay	10.3		12	54	sunny

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Ilfracombe			12	54	sunny
Tenby	5.5		9	48	sunny
Colwyn Bay	4.4		7	45	sunny
Southport	6.2		8	46	sunny am
Morecambe	6.8		9	48	sunny
Douglas	7.6		7	45	hail pm
ENGLAND AND WALES					
London (Cen)	0.7	.04	7	45	hail pm
B'hm (Airp)	2.5		7	45	showers
Bristol (Cen)	5.4	.03	9	48	bright
Cardiff (Cen)	8.5	.07	10	50	bright
Anglesey	6.8	.01	7	45	hail
B'pool (Airp)	8.9		7	45	sunny
Manchester	5.8		7	45	snow
Nottingham	4.3		6	43	bright
N'cle-n-Tyne	9.9	.10	7	45	showers am
Carlisle					
SCOTLAND					
Edinburgh					
Prestwick	7.2		8	46	sunny
Glasgow	7.3		9	48	sunny
Tiree	5.2		7	45	hail am
Stornoway	1.5	.01	6	43	hail
Lerwick	4.0	.18	4	39	snow
Wick	4.9	.09	7	45	hail
Kinloss	1.5	.12	7	45	hail
Aberdeen	6.8	.16	6	43	snow
St Andrews	5.6	.9	9	48	showers
Edinburgh	5.8	.01	8	46	snow am
NORTHERN IRELAND					
Belfast	3.3		6	43	sunny

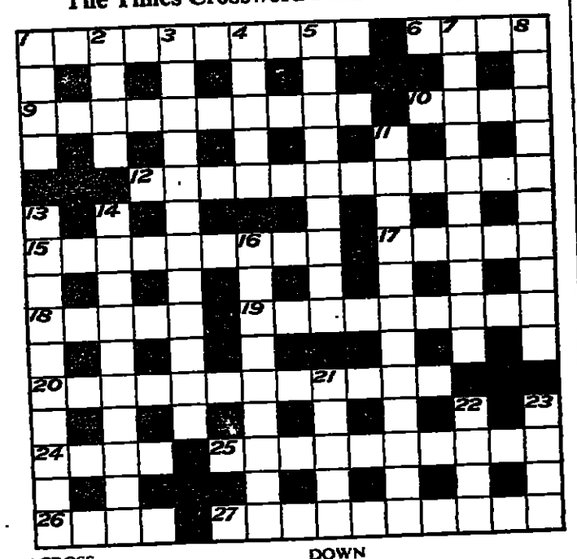
Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

	C	F		C	F		C	F
Alicante	c	14	57	Cologne	r	5	41	Majorca	s	19	66	Rome	s	17	63
Ajaccio	s	19	66	Copenhgn	r	2	36	Malaga	s	21	70	Salzburg	r	12	54
Alexandria	s	27	81	Corfu	c	16	61	Malta	s	19	66	San Paulo	c	27	81
Algiers	s	20	68	Dublin	c	5	41	Melbourne	s	24	75	S Francisco	s	9	48
Amsterdam	f	7	45	Dubrovnik	s	16	61	Mexico C*	f	20	68	Santiago*	s	32	90
Athens	f	15	59	Faro	s	18	61	Miami*	f	29	75	Seoul	c	2	36
Bahrain	s	28	73	Florence	f	19	66	Milan	c	11	52	Singapore*	s	32	90
Barbados*	f	28	82	Frankfurt	c	9	48	Montreal*	s	2	36	Stockholm	s	5	41
Barcelona	s	16	61	Funchal	f	19	66	Moscow	c	2	36	Strasbourg	c	9	48
Beirut*	s	16	64	Geneva	f	9	48	Munich	r	9	48	Sydney	s	22	72
Belgrade	s	19	66	Gibraltar	f	18	64	Nairobi	t	27	81	Tangier	s	19	66
Berlin	c	11	52	Helsinki	sl	1	34	Naples	s	16	61	Tel Aviv	s	29	84
Bermuda*	r	14	57	Hong Kong	c	24	75	New Delhi	s	34	93	Teneriffe*	s	25	77
Biarritz	r	9	48	Innsbruck	f	13	55	New York*	s	10	50	Tokyo	s	9	48
Bologne	c	5	41	Istanbul	f	11	52	Nice	f	15	59	Toronto*	s	2	36
Bordeaux	s	9	48	Jakarta	s	33	91	Oslo*	s	3	37	Tunis	s	18	64
Brussels	c	5	41	Jo'burg*	f	27	81	Paris	r	5	41	Valencia	s	16	61
Budapest	c	13	55	Karachi	f	29	84	Peking	s	16	61	Vancouver	s	9	48
Buen Aires*	d	23	73	Las Palmas	s	23	73	Perth	s	35	95	Venice	s	17	63
Cairo	s	31	88	Lisbon	f	16	61	Prague	f	12	54	Vienna	s	14	57
Cape Tn	s	29	84	Locarno	r	6	43	Reykjavik	sn	–	5	23	Warsaw	c	6	43
Chicago*	s	17	63	L Angeles*	f	15	59	Rhodes	f	17	63	Washington*	s	12	54
Chicago*	s	15	59	Lucerne	r	5	41	Riyadh*	s	33	91	Wellington*	s	17	63
Ch'chrch*	s	15	59	Madrid	f	12	54	Rio de Jan	s	27	81	Zurich	r	6	43

* denotes Tuesday's figures are latest available

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,697



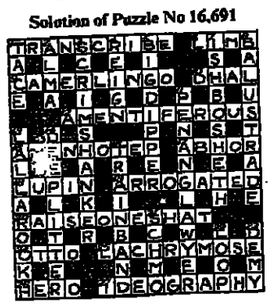
ACROSS

1 Cornish version of bunny-hug? (5.5).
6 Hair-style for a transformation? (4).
9 Charmed for a time by the Spring (10).
10 Old-fashioned advice for anarchist has point (4).
12 Hanging on to investment is difficult (7.5).
15 Kestrel will gain height at first in circling Kentish Town (9).
17 Otto gives a kind of shirt to Jack (5).
18 Prophet of human disintegration (5).
19 Mob orator expected to keep printers' unit on the boil (9).
20 New Forest lepidopterist "in loco parentis"? (6-6).
24 Carve a large slice of meat (4).
25 Pacificist's study? (10).
26 Turntable in Papal court? (4).
27 After cigarette doctor tossed die and got cured (5-5).

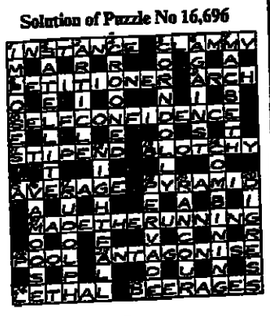
DOWN

1 Integrate ritual after Feb 1st (4).
2 Our man leaves the brave warriors masses of eggs (4).
3 Bunting used for coloured wrapper, we hear (12).
4 Quash article on invalid (5).
5 Fish swallows blue tit – strange puzzle! (9).
7 Cost of cargo puts crew in fine frenzy (10).
8 Upset open pot on newspaper leader (10).
11 Set limits at 90° and maintain complete control (12).
13 Fewer vines damaged by beastly disease (5-5).
14 Hunt is arranged in East for keen type (10).
16 Travelling companion? (4-5).
21 Kind of record mark (5).
22 Island swamp turned up in desert (4).
23 Eddy changed colour (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,691



Solution of Puzzle No 16,696



CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 12